THE
AUTHORIZED
STANDARD RITUAL
OF THE
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR
STATE OF NEW YORK

ADOPTED BY THE GRAND CHAPTER
OCTOBER 14, 1919

THE AUTHORIZED

STANDARD RITUAL

OF THE

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

STATE OF NEW YORK

A SYSTEM OF FORMS AND CEREMONIES, WITH NECESSARY INSTRUCTIONS FOR CHAPTERS

ADOPTED BY THE GRAND CHAPTER,
OCTOBER 14, 1913.

REVISION MADE PERMANENT,
OCTOBER 14, 1915.

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TWENTIETH EDITION

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New York, N. Y.,
October 14, 1913.

At the Annual Meeting of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star of the State of New York, held in October, 1912, the Grand Lecturer, Albert H. Brundage, M.D., presented his Annual Report and, as a part of that Report, a revision, which he had prepared, of the Ritual, and its Esoteric Key (the "Syllabus").

By vote of the Grand Chapter, this revision was referred to a special committee, to report at the next Annual Meeting, October, 1913.

The Committee, composed of the undersigned, has carefully reviewed this revision and, with some alterations, which have been incorporated by the Committee, it is hereby recommended for adoption.

Moses Yeaton,
Elias M. Stone,
Annie M. Pond,
Jennie S. Molesworth,
Albert H. Brundage,
Committee.

Adopted by the Grand Chapter, October 14, 1913. Revision made permanent October 14, 1915.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

"I give, devise and bequeath to the Trustees of the Eastern Star Hall and Home of the State of New York, a corporation created by and existing under the Laws of the State of New York, the sum of.....Dollars, to be applied to the uses and purposes of said Society."

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Foundation, Landmarks and Instructions.

THE DEGREES OF THE EASTERN STAR.

The theory and structure of the Eastern Star degrees are based upon the Holy Scriptures. Five notable and worthy characters have been selected and their acts and virtues portrayed for inspiration and emulation. The selections are:

1. "ADAH," JEPHTHAH'S DAUGHTER, illustrating filial devotion, integrity and truth.
2. RUTH, illustrating constancy, loyalty and industry.
3. ESTHER, illustrating justice, courage and fidelity.
4. MARTHA, illustrating abiding faith.
5. "ELECTA," illustrating beneficence, fortitude and steadfastness.

These five degrees are the true or fundamental degrees of the Order of the Eastern Star. They are essential to membership in the Order and confer all of the rights and privileges of the Order. All other ceremonies are auxiliary, and do not advance a member in degree rank, nor increase a member's rights or privileges in the Order.

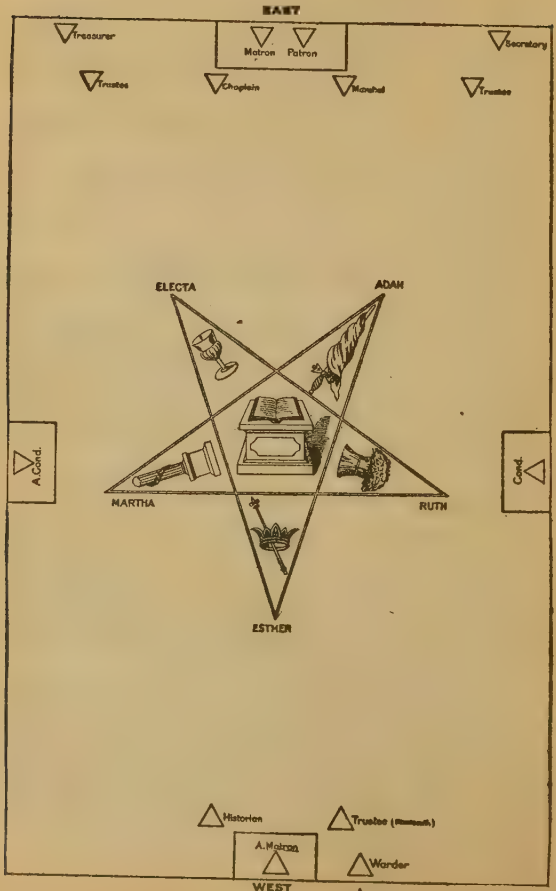
OFFICERS, ETC., AND THEIR STATIONS.

The degrees are conferred in a body styled a Chapter. All Chapters in the State of New York are under the control and amenable to the rules and regulations of a body called the Grand Chapter of the State of New York, which is composed of Officers, and delegates from said Chapters. The Officers of a Chapter and their stations are as follows:

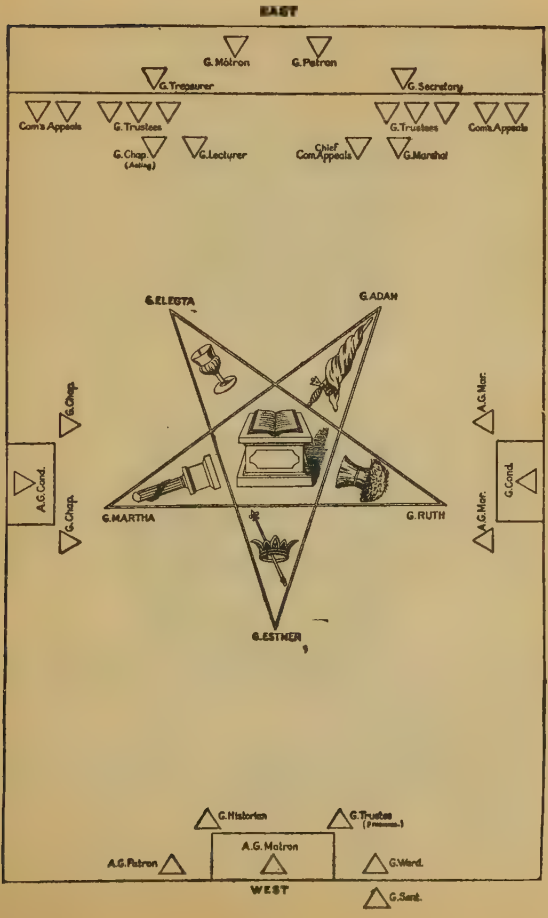
1. The Matron, in the East; 2. The Patron, at the left of the Matron; 3. The Associate Matron, in the West; 4. The Treasurer, at the right (and in front*) of the Matron; 5. The Secretary, at the left (and in front) of the Patron; 6. The Conductress, in the South; 7. The Associate Conductress, in the North;

* Words in parentheses apply to special conditions.

STATIONS OF THE OFFICERS
CHAPTER



STATIONS OF THE OFFICERS
GRAND CHAPTER



8. The Chaplain, on the floor in the East, at the right and in front of the Matron; 9. The Marshal, on the floor in the East, at the left and in front of the Patron; 10. The Historian (on the floor), at the left (and in front) of the Associate Matron; 11. The Organist, at the organ; 12. The Warder, inside and near the Chapter-entrance door; 13. The Sentinel, outside, and near the Chapter-entrance door; 14. Adah, at the first "point of the Star"; 15. Ruth, at the second "point"; 16. Esther, at the third "point"; 17. Martha, at the fourth "point"; 18. Electa, at the fifth "point"; 19, 20 and 21. Three Trustees; one, (the Chairman, or, President of the Board) (on the floor), at the right (and in front) of the Associate Matron, one in front of the Treasurer's desk, and one in front of the Secretary's desk.

The members of the Special Floral Staff may be seated, in a body, at one side of the Chapter room, or, individually, near the Officer to which each member is respectively auxiliary; but the auxiliary distinction shall be evident and maintained.

The Patron, or, a Brother of the Order, shall be present during the balloting on petitions and the ceremony of Initiation. The Patron, or, a Past Patron of the Chapter, shall preside at the annual election. The Installation of the Officers of a Chapter shall be conducted by any present or Past Patron.

JEWELS OR EMBLEMS.

Jewels of the Officers consist of the emblem** of the Order, suspended from a bar on which is inscribed the title of the office with its appropriate insignia.

They are as follows:

Matron—Gavel within the Star.

Patron—Square and Compasses within the Star.

Associate Matron—Refulgent Sun within the Star.

Treasurer—Cross-keys within the Star.

** Patented February 7, 1911.

JEWELS OF THE OFFICERS.

Emblem patented February 7, 1911.

JEWELS FOR OTHER OFFICERS ARE DISTINGUISHED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE BARS.

Secretary—Cross-pens within the Star.
Conductress—Scroll and Baton within the Star.
Associate Conductress—Baton within the Star.
Warder—Dove within the Star.
Chaplain—Open Bible within the Star.
Marshal—Cross-batons within the Star.
Historian—Open Book and Pen within the Star.
Organist—Harp within the Star.
Sentinel—Cross-swords within the Star.
Adah—Sword and Veil.
Ruth—Sheaf.
Esther—Crown and Scepter.
Martha—Broken Column
Electa—Cup.
Trustees—Cross-spears within the Star.
Grand Lecturer—Scroll within the Star.
District Deputy—Gavel within the Star.

REGALIA.

COLORS FOR STAR POINTS.

Dark Blue for Adah; Yellow for Ruth; White for Esther; Green for Martha; Red for Electa.

The regulation scarf may be worn by the Grand Matron or by a Matron.

FURNITURE, ETC.

An Altar in the center of the room.

A Bible for the Altar, Drapery for Altar, etc.

Gavels for Matron and Associate Matron.

Chairs in the East, West, North and South, and at the "points of the Star." Pedestals (tables, banners, etc.) where required.

A Ballot Box, with white balls and black cubes; several small Bibles; a seal; signet; (sword) veil for Adah; two sheaves of barley or wheat for Ruth, also two for the Altar; (crown), (scepter) for Esther; (broken column) for Martha; (cup) for Electa; veils

(Articles in parentheses are optional.)

for candidates; staves for Star Points, (etc.); badges for Special Floral Staff; The American Flag.

LANDMARKS OF THE ORDER.

1. The Eastern Star is the basis of the Degrees of the Order; the name and character of the Order are unchangeable.

2. The lessons are Scriptural, the teachings are moral, and the purposes are beneficent.

3. Its inception was based upon the honor and the beneficence of those of the female sex who pass through its ceremonies. It is established upon the principle that whatever benefits are due by the Masonic fraternity *to* the mothers, wives, daughters, sisters and widows of Master Masons, corresponding benefits are due *from* them to the Brotherhood.

4. A belief in the existence of a Supreme Being.

5. The modes of recognition, which are the peculiar secrets of the Order, cannot be changed, without destroying the foundation of the system.

6. A covenant of secrecy, voluntarily assumed, is perpetual; from the force of such obligation there is no release.

7. The control lies in the body styled the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star of the State of New York; or, in the prerogatives of the Grand Matron, executive officer, when the Grand Chapter is not in session.

8. Each candidate for membership in a Chapter must be unanimously elected by ballot at a stated meeting of the Chapter. The character of the ballot cast by a member must be kept secret.

9. It is the right of every Chapter to determine who shall be admitted to its membership, and to select its own Officers. In no case can the degrees of the Order be conferred unless a Master Mason in good standing in the Masonic Fraternity presides, who shall be a member of the Order.

10. Every member is amenable to the laws and Regulations of the Order, and may be tried for offenses, though temporarily or permanently residing within the jurisdiction of another Chapter.

11. It is the right of every member to appeal from a trial decision of a subordinate Chapter, in the manner prescribed by the Grand Chapter.

12. It is the prerogative of the Grand Matron to preside over every Chapter assembly wherever she may visit, and to grant dispensations for the formation of new Chapters within the territorial jurisdiction.

13. Every Chapter has the right to dispense the light of the Order of the Eastern Star, and to administer its own private affairs.

14. Every Chapter shall elect and install its Officers annually.

15. It is the right of every member in good standing to visit in any regular Chapter, except when his (or, her) admission will disturb the harmony of the Chapter or embarrass its work.

BALLOTING ON PETITIONS.

When the Order of Business, "Balloting on Petitions," shall have been reached, the Matron calls up the Associate Conductress:

Matron. Sister Associate Conductress, prepare the ballot.

The A. Cond. prepares the ballot. The part of the ballot-box into which votes or ballots are to be cast, must be empty and the other part must contain a number of suitable white balls and at least three suitable black cubes.

A. Cond. Worthy Matron, the ballot is prepared.

Matron. Sister Associate Conductress, convey the ballot-box West, then East, for inspection.

The A. Matron, the Patron and the Matron will observe that the ballot is properly prepared.

Matron. Sisters and Brothers of ———— Chapter, you are about to ballot upon the petition of ———— for membership in this Chapter. Each member in favor of granting the prayer of the petitioner will cast a white ball, and each opposed, a black cube. The hand used in voting must be ungloved when thus used.

[If it is desired to take a collective ballot upon the names of several candidates, before such form of ballot can be taken, the presiding Officer must announce:]

Matron. If there is no objection, a collective ballot will be taken on these petitions.

The Matron should wait long enough for any member to object, then:

Matron. Hearing none, it is so ordered. If a black cube appears in the ballot cast, a separate ballot will then be taken on each petition. (*Gavel**)

If any member objects to a collective ballot, then such ballot is not permissible, and a separate ballot

must be taken on each petition. Furthermore, inasmuch as a collective ballot is at the same time a ballot on each petition, although done collectively, and only three ballots are allowed upon a petition, only two more ballots may be cast on each petition after a collective ballot has been taken.

A separate ballot after a collective one, or another separate ballot after one which appears cloudy, may be announced by the Matron as follows:

Matron. Sister Associate Conductress, prepare the ballot.

She then goes through the same procedure as if no ballot had been taken.

The Matron and the Patron vote, then:

Matron. Sister Associate Conductress, convey the ballot-box to the Secretary and to the Associate Matron for their ballots, then place it upon the Altar.

The Marshal should follow the A. Cond. westward, and arrange the Bible upon the Altar so that the A. Cond. can readily place the ballot-box. The Marshal should pass to the door of the Preparation Room and guard it. The A. Cond. should stand beside Martha, and the Cond. beside Ruth while the members ballot. A voter may conveniently pass to the Altar from one side of Esther's chair and leaving the Altar pass on the other side of her chair, thus avoiding confusion. One voter only should be at the Altar at a time. If the Sentinel is a member, he is entitled to vote. The ballot-box, having been placed:

Matron. The Officers will proceed to vote.

They having voted:

Matron. Members on the North will vote.

They having voted:

Matron. Members on the South will vote.

The voting apparently having been completed:

Matron. Sister Associate Conductress, have all members voted?

A. Cond. They have.

Matron. I declare the ballot closed (*Gavel**). Sister Associate Conductress, convey the ballot-box West, then East, for the inspection of the ballot.

The ballot is to be inspected by the A. Matron, the Patron and the Matron as to its being "clear" or "cloudy."

When the ballot has been examined by the A. Matron, the Patron and the Matron and the latter observes that it is "cloudy" (unfavorable), two additional ballots may be ordered, provided no announcement of the result of the previous ballot has been declared. (*See Constitution, Sec.* 77.) If the ballot is "clear," the Matron will ask:

Matron. Sister Associate Matron, how is the ballot in the West?

A. Matron. The ballot is clear in the West, Worthy Matron.

Matron. Worthy Patron, how is the ballot in the East?

Patron. The ballot is clear in the East, Worthy Matron.

Matron. The ballot being clear, I have the pleasure to inform you that ———— has been elected to become a member of this Chapter (*Gavel**).

If the ballot is unfavorable (i. e., a black cube appearing), the A. Matron and the Patron, upon being asked, will each say:

A. Matron. } The ballot is cloudy (*not*
Patron. } *clear*), Worthy Matron.

Matron. The ballot being cloudy, it is my duty to announce the petition of ———— rejected (*Gavel**).

RECEIVING GRAND OFFICERS AND MATRONS AND PATRONS. (Also see Page 39.)

1. Grand Officers, Present and Past, should be conducted through the Star; Matrons and Patrons, outside the Star. The Cond. takes Brothers by the right arm and all pass to the right of the Altar; Sisters, by the left arm and all pass to the left of the Altar.

2. When the Grand Matron, or the District Deputy Grand Matron, visits a Chapter, she should be formally introduced and tendered the gavel.

3. Ordinarily, in opening Chapter sessions, it is inadvisable to take time to present in the East more than the present Officers of Grand or subordinate Chapters and the Most Worthy Past Grand Officers. The presiding Officer might, however, also express her satisfaction at seeing present ———— (calling out the names and titles of other Past Officers of Grand and subordinate Chapters), without bringing them to the East. Those who are conducted to the East should be presented in separate and distinct series, thus:

Most Worthy present Grand Officers
Most Worthy Past Grand Officers
Right Worthy present Grand Officers
Worthy present Officers

They may properly be presented in the following language:

"Sisters and Brothers, I have the pleasure and honor to present ————, ———— (name and title, *or*, names and titles). You will with me accord her (*or*, him; *or*, them) the honor due her (*or*, his; *or*, their) station (*or*, stations), by saluting her (*or*, him; *or*, them) with the Grand Honor Sign (*or*, the Public Sign of Salutation).

OBLIGATING MASTER MASONS.

Immediately after the A. Matron announces "all the ladies are entitled to be present," in the Opening Ceremonies, it is the duty of the Patron to ascertain and establish the right of the gentlemen to be present. He then reports to the Matron, vouching for all of the Brothers present. When the Patron is satisfied that all gentlemen present are Master Masons, but is uncertain whether all of them have been obligated in an O. E. S. Chapter, he should say:

Patron. If any Brother present is visiting a Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star for the first time, he will please rise.

Then, if there be such Brother present, the Patron will say:

Patron. Sister (*or*, Brother) Marshal, place the Brother (*or*, Brothers) in the position to be obligated.

The Marshal places the Brothers, west of the Altar, facing the East. The Marshal opens the Bible, steps aside and remains there during the Obligation.

The Patron calls up the Chapter. He approaches the Altar and says:

Patron. My Brother (*or,* Brothers), the Order of the Eastern Star is an organization composed of the mothers,* wives, daughters,* sisters* and widows of Master Masons, and Master Masons. It is a secret organization, with signs and passwords peculiar to itself, which are held sacred by the members. In this State, Master Masons are always welcome at the Chapter Meetings, but the rules of the Order require that each Master Mason shall give a pledge that he will not improperly divulge any of the secret work. If you are willing to give such a pledge ———— (*See Esoteric Key, Page* 1, *Footnote, etc.*)

Patron. In the name of ———— Chapter, No. ——, I cordially welcome you. May you enjoy this meeting and be favorably impressed with the ceremonies.

The Patron returns to his station and seats the Chapter.

Patron. Sister (*or,* Brother) Marshal, attend at the Altar,** and conduct the Brother (*or,* Brothers) to a seat (*or,* to seats).

Having made certain that all the gentlemen present are obligated Master Masons, the Patron announces to the Matron:

Patron. Worthy Matron, all the gentlemen are entitled to be present.

* Includes legally adopted daughters, half-sisters, and foster mothers of legally adopted sons.

** Close the Bible.

Opening Ceremonies.

OPENING CEREMONIES

When ready for the opening exercises, the Officers, except the Organist, assemble in the ante-room. The Patron escorts the A. Cond. to her station, continues to the East, gives with gavel* and then says:

Patron. Sister Associate Conductress (*she responds**), inform the Worthy Matron that the members are ready to receive her and the other Officers of this Chapter, and await her pleasure.

A. Cond. (*goes to and opens the door*). Worthy Matron, the Worthy Patron directs me to inform you that the members are ready to receive you and the other Officers of this Chapter, and await your pleasure.

Matron. Inform the Worthy Patron that we are ready to enter.

A. Cond. (*closes the door*). Worthy Patron, the Worthy Matron and her associate Officers are ready to enter.

Patron. Admit them.

The Patron calls up the Chapter. Music. The Officers, preceded by the Marshal, enter in two lines as in the following diagram, or such other form as the Chapter may direct. A salute to the flag may very properly be given immediately after entrance.

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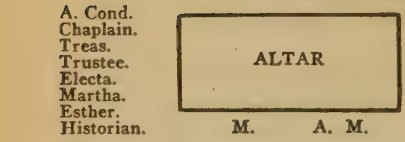
* Each Officer, when addressed, should rise and respond, and remain standing until the respective duty is over or until she is seated from the East. When addressing, giving or transmitting orders, use title, as Worthy Matron or Worthy Patron.



When the lines have formed in the Chapter room, the Officers should salute the Patron with the Public Sign of Salutation. He may return their salute and give a few words of welcome to the Matron.

Patron. Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, escort the Worthy Matron to her station.

The Cond. and A. Cond. will escort the Matron to the foot of the dais, the Patron will descend and conduct her to her station and hand her the gavel; the Cond. and A. Cond. or the Marshal will conduct the A. Matron to her station, after which the Matron will direct the officers to assume their stations.

Matron. The Officers will assume their respective stations and prepare for the active duties of the Chapter.

Music, while the Officers are going to their stations. The Chapter is seated.

Members of ———— Chapter, No. ———— and visitors, the hour has arrived for us to resume our labors. In order that our Chapter may be opened in a manner that will insure solemnity in our work, I must require your attention and assistance.

Sister Warder (*she responds*), inform the Sentinel that we are engaged in the ceremonies

of opening our Chapter and instruct him to permit no interruption while we are so engaged. Then secure the doors.

Warder gives * * * * * raps which are answered by the Sentinel, opens the door and informs the Sentinel:

Warder. Brother Sentinel, the Worthy Matron directs me to inform you that we are engaged in the ceremonies of opening our Chapter and you are to permit no interruption while we are so engaged.

The Warder then secures the doors and says:

Warder. Worthy Matron, the Sentinel is informed, and there will be no interruption from without. The doors have been secured.

Matron. Sister Associate Matron (*she responds*), ascertain if all the ladies are entitled to be present.

A. Matron. Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, ascertain if all the ladies are entitled to be present.

The Cond. and A. Cond. take up the password, after they have received it from the Matron, by passing around the Chapter room, each being responsible for her respective half of it, and each taking the password from all ladies in her half of the Chapter room, of whose eligibility or right to be present she is not positive. She may omit asking those of whom she is positive. Each visiting member must be prepared to show membership card. In this "purging of the Chapter room," the password should be spoken in a low but distinct whisper and the one giving it should rise, or partly rise, in so doing. When this duty has

been properly performed, the A. Cond. reports to the Cond. and both resume their stations, and the Cond. reports the result to the A. Matron. If either finds a lady whom she does not know and who is without the password, she will ask such lady to stand and will then turn to the Matron and say:

"Worthy Matron, a lady without the password."

Whereupon the Matron will inquire if any person present vouches for the lady; if not, the lady must retire and prove her eligibility.

Cond. Sister Associate Matron, all the ladies are entitled to be present.

A. Matron. Worthy Matron, all the ladies are entitled to be present.

Matron. Worthy Patron, are all the gentlemen entitled to be present?

If he has not ascertained, the Patron will respond:

Patron. I will ascertain and report.

Should any Master Mason (*or*, Master Masons) be present who has (*or*, have) not been obligated, that ceremony should now be performed. (*See "Obligating Master Masons," pages* 21 *and* 22), and any admitted thereafter should be immediately obligated. No person should be admitted nor allowed to retire during the opening exercises, nor the balloting on petitions, nor the floral ceremony; nor during the conferring of degrees, except by permission, while the march is taking place.

When the Patron has determined, he will report:

Patron. Worthy Matron, all the gentlemen are entitled to be present.

Matron. Sister Associate Matron, what number of Officers constitute a Chapter of the

Order of the Eastern Star, and what titles do they bear?

A. Matron. A complete Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star may have twenty-one Officers,* and a Special Floral Staff.† The Officers' titles are: Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Associate Matron, Treasurer, Secretary, Conductress, Associate Conductress, Chaplain, Marshal, Historian, Organist, Warder, Sentinel, Adah, Ruth, Esther, Martha, Electa, and three Trustees.

Matron. Where is the Sentinel stationed?

A. Matron. Outside and near the Chapter-entrance door.

Matron. Explain his duty and his emblem of office.

A. Matron. To protect the Chapter. His emblem, the Cross-swords within the Star, a symbol of protection, will admonish him that upon his watchful care depends our security against interruption, or the intrusion of improper persons.

Matron. Where is the Warder stationed?

A. Matron. Inside and near the Chapter-entrance door.‡

Matron. Sister Warder, explain your duty and your emblem of office.

* See Constitution, Section 39.

† The work of the Floral Ceremony may be delegated to a Special Floral Staff.

‡ During the Opening Ceremonies, each Officer, after response, will remain standing until seated by the presiding Officer.

Warder. To act in conjunction with the Sentinel in protecting the Chapter from the intrusion of improper persons. My emblem, the Dove within the Star, a symbol of peace, will admonish me to assist in maintaining peace.

Matron. Where is the Associate Conductress stationed?

Warder. In the North.

Matron. Sister Associate Conductress, explain your duty and your emblem of office.

A. Cond. To receive and prepare candidates for Initiation, and to assist the Conductress in the active duties of the Chapter. My emblem, the Baton within the Star, a symbol of direction, will admonish me that good order and discipline are essential to the success of our Order.

Matron. Where is the Conductress stationed?

A. Cond. In the South.

Matron. Sister Conductress, explain your duty and your emblem of office.

Cond. To ascertain, at the opening of the Chapter, if all the ladies are entitled to be present; to conduct candidates during their Initiation; and to perform such other services as the Worthy Matron may direct. My emblem, the Scroll and Baton within the Star, is a symbol of prepared plans and their fulfilment. It will admonish me that the first impressions made upon a candidate are permanent, and that it depends greatly upon the manner in

which the candidate is conducted through our "Labyrinth," whether those impressions are for the greatest good.

Matron. Where is the Secretary stationed?

Cond. In the South-east.

Matron. Sister (*or,* Brother) Secretary, explain your duty and your emblem of office.

Secy. To observe carefully the proceedings of the Chapter; to record accurately all that is vital to it; to receive all moneys due the Chapter and to pay the same to the Treasurer. My emblem, the Cross-pens within the Star, a symbol of record, will admonish me to be faithful to my trust, that the good deeds and the expressions of my associates may not go unrecorded.

Matron. Where is the Treasurer stationed?

Secy. In the North-east.

Matron. Sister (*or,* Brother) Treasurer, explain your duty and your emblem of office.

Treas. To receive all moneys from the Secretary, and to pay them out only upon an order signed by the Worthy Matron and by the Secretary. My emblem, the Cross-keys within the Star, a symbol of security, will admonish me to observe the strictest care and fidelity in the preservation and the disbursement of the funds intrusted to my keeping, that the Chapter may not be embarrassed in its deeds of charity or in meeting its necessary expenses.

Matron. Where is the Chaplain stationed?

Treas. On the floor at the right and in front of the Worthy Matron.

Matron. Sister (or, Brother) Chaplain, explain your duty and your emblem of office.

Chap. To lead in the devotional exercises of the Chapter. My emblem, the open Bible within the Star, a symbol of the revealed will of God, will admonish me to study its sacred pages and to practice its ennobling precepts.

Matron. Where is the Marshal stationed?

Chap. On the floor at the left and in front of the Worthy Patron.

Matron. Sister (or, Brother) Marshal, explain your duty and your emblem of office.

Marshal. To answer the roll call of Officers at the opening of the Chapter, to greet visitors and see that they are provided with seats, to place Master Masons, visiting a Chapter of the Order for the first time, in position to be obligated, and to arrange and conduct all the processions of the Chapter. My emblem, the Cross-batons within the Star, a symbol of discipline and order, will admonish me to be diligent in the discharge of my duties.

Matron. Where is the Historian stationed?

Marshal. On the floor at the left and in front of the Associate Matron.

Matron. Sister (or, Brother) Historian, explain your duty and your emblem of office.

Hist. To compile and to record, and annually to report, such current events as may be of

interest and service to this Chapter. My emblem, the open Book and Pen within the Star, will admonish me to be diligent in recording and presenting facts that merit recognition and perpetuation.

Matron. Where is the Organist stationed?

Hist. At the organ (*or,* piano).

Matron. Sister (*or,* Brother) Organist, explain your duty and your emblem of office.

Organist. To direct the musical exercises of the Chapter. My emblem, the Harp within the Star, a symbol of harmony, will admonish me to promote harmony in the Chapter.

Matron. Where is Adah stationed?

Organist. At the first "point of the Star."

Matron. Sister Adah, what is your duty and what the color and the emblem of your station?

Adah. To explain the lessons, and the beauty of the blue ray, which symbolizes filial devotion, integrity and truth. My emblem, the Sword and Veil united, will remind us of the heroic conduct of "Adah," Jephthah's daughter, whom I represent.

Matron. Where is Ruth stationed?

Adah. At the second "point of the Star."

Matron. Sister Ruth, what is your duty and what the color and the emblem of your station?

Ruth. To explain the lessons and the beauty of the yellow ray, which symbolizes constancy, loyalty and industry. My emblem, the Sheaf,

which being composed of small but distinct parts, is gathered together by patient industry. Such was the unselfish labor of the humble gleaner, Ruth, whom I represent.

Matron. Where is Esther stationed?

Ruth. At the third "point of the Star."

Matron. Sister Esther, what is your duty and what the color and the emblem of your station?

Esther. To explain the lessons and the beauty of the white ray, which symbolizes justice, courage and fidelity. My emblem, the Crown and Scepter united, suggests royalty and power. In the discharge of important duties, we should be actuated by the principles of obligation and of justice. It was by the practice of these attributes that Esther, whom I represent, saved her people from destruction.

Matron. Where is Martha stationed?

Esther. At the fourth "point of the Star."

Matron. Sister Martha, what is your duty and what the color and the emblem of your station?

Martha. To explain the lessons and the beauty of the green ray, which symbolizes faith and immortality. My emblem is the Broken Column. It should remind us of the uncertainty of human existence and of the abiding faith of Martha, whom I represent.

Matron. Where is Electa stationed?

Martha. At the fifth "point of the Star."

Matron. Sister Electa, what is your duty and what the color and the emblem of your station?

Electa. To explain the lessons and the beauty of the red ray, which symbolizes beneficence, fortitude and steadfastness. These qualities should actuate all who are charitable and loyal. My emblem, the Cup, suggests the hospitality and the afflictions of "Electa," whom I represent.

Matron. Where are the Trustees stationed?

Electa. The Chairman (*or,* President) of the (Board of) Trustees is stationed at the right and in front of the Associate Matron; the second Trustee in front of the Treasurer's desk, and the third Trustee in front of the Secretary's desk.

Sister (*or,* Brother) Chairman (*or,* President), what is the duty of the Trustees and what is their emblem of office?

Trustee (*Chairman or, President*). To act as the custodians of the property of the Chapter and to attend to the investment of its funds. Our emblem of office, the Cross-spears within the Star, suggests care and protection.

Matron. Where is the Associate Matron stationed?

Trustee (*Chairman or, President*). In the West.

Matron. Sister Associate Matron, what is

your duty, and what is the emblem of your office?

A. Matron. To co-operate with the Worthy Matron in the discharge of her duties and to preside during her absence. My emblem, the refulgent Sun within the Star, a symbol of light and glory, will admonish me to strive by my labors, to add to the glory of our Order.

Matron. Sister Associate Matron, where is the Worthy Patron stationed?

A. Matron. At your left.

Matron. Brother Worthy Patron, what is your duty and what is the emblem of your office?

Patron. To preside during the conferring of degrees, the election and the installation of Officers, to see that the Officers are proficient in their work, and to act as the official adviser of the Worthy Matron. My emblem, the Square and Compasses within the Star, will remind me of my membership in the Masonic Fraternity and of my relationship to the Order of the Eastern Star.

Matron. Sister Associate Matron, where is the Worthy Matron stationed?

A. Matron. In the East.

Matron. Explain her duties, her responsibilities and her emblem of office.

A. Matron. To preside over the deliberations of the Chapter and to see that its principles and purposes are properly preserved and maintained. Her emblem, the Gavel within the

Star, the symbol of highest authority, will admonish her that upon her judgment and leadership rests the prosperity of the Chapter. Her responsibilities to God and her obligations to the Order should ever prompt her to be faithful in the discharge of every duty.

Matron. It is in this spirit that I purpose to open this Chapter, and to discharge whatever duties may devolve upon me. That we may have the needed grace to do our work well, let us, with our Chaplain unite in prayer.

The Matron calls up the Chapter, and the Chaplain proceeds to the west of the Altar and offers the following, or other appropriate prayer:

The other Officers may assemble about the Altar.

PRAYER.

Chap. Oh Lord of all mercies and blessings, we beseech Thee to look down upon us with Thy favor and so imbue us with Thy Spirit that whatever is done in this assembly may be in accordance with Thy Divine Will. May we be so inspired by the noble deeds and virtues related of those beautiful characters, the five heroines of our Order, that we may more earnestly strive to possess and practice such virtues in our lives. If any of our Sisters or Brothers are in sorrow or sickness, let the consolation of Thy Spirit comfort and uphold them. All praise shall be Thine. Amen.

All repeat. Amen.

May chant the Lord's Prayer. Chaplain returns to her (*or*, to his) station.

Matron. Let us unite in singing our opening ode.

The opening ode is sung. At close of singing.

Matron. Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, attend at the Altar.

The Cond. opens the Bible on the Altar (properly at Matthew, Chap. 2, verse 2); the A. Cond. places the sheaves of barley (or, wheat) at each side of the open Bible.

The Cond. and the A. Cond. will then stand, side by side, west of the Altar, and the Cond. will say:

Cond. "WE HAVE SEEN HIS STAR IN THE EAST AND ARE COME TO WORSHIP HIM."

Immediately after this quotation, without comment, the Signs, from that of Adah, to, and including, the Public Sign of Salutation, will be given in unison with the Matron. The Cond. and A. Cond. will then return to their stations.

[*N. B.*: During intermission, entertainment or similar social exercises, while a Chapter is in session, the Bible must be closed. This may be done without other formality than the following order to the Cond. or to the A. Cond., or to both. [*Also see Intermission.*]

Matron (or other Presiding Officer): "Sister Conductress (*or, or* and, Sister Associate Conductress), attend at the Altar."

A salute (the Pub. Sg. Sal.) to the Matron (*or*, other Presiding Officer), upon return to station, will indicate the duty is performed.

When the entertainment is over, the Bible will be reopened by similar order.]

Matron. In the name of the departed hero-

ines, whose virtues we should strive to emulate, in the name of our great Sisterhood, knit together in bonds of charity and sincere friendship, and in the name of our Heavenly Father, unto whom be all honor and glory forever, I declare ———— Chapter, No. ———, Order of the Eastern Star, open and in order for business.

Sister Warder, inform the Sentinel that the Chapter is open and in order for business.

Sister Conductress, give the Sentinel the password.

Warder. Brother Sentinel, the Worthy Matron directs me to inform you that the Chapter is open and in order for business.

Cond. Brother Sentinel, the password is—.

The Chapter is seated. While the Warder has the Chapter-entrance door open to "inform" the Sentinel, the Cond. will give the Sentinel in a careful, distinct whisper, the password of the evening. Thereafter he must receive the password from all Sisters and Brothers who desire to enter, unless he is positive of their right to do so. Each visiting member of the Order must be prepared to show membership card. The Warder and the Cond., standing side by side, near the door, will then report to the Matron:

Warder. Worthy Matron, the Sentinel is informed that "the Chapter is open and in order for business."

Cond. Worthy Matron, the Sentinel has been given "the password."

The Matron will then welcome all present and proceed to invite the Officers of Grand and subordinate Chapters to the East, in accordance with the instructions given on page 20.

Matron. The Most Worthy present and Past Grand Officers, the Right Worthy present Grand Officers, and the Worthy present Officers are most cordially invited to the East.

The presiding Officer may then request them to assemble in the West in their successive series, having a whole series conducted to the East at one time; or call or single out each individual in a series, while inviting that series, and have that individual escorted alone to the East where all of that series is assembled and introduced individually, or as a whole. As one series retires from the East, the next series may be assembled. Grand Officers are conducted to the East through the Star; others, outside of it. The Chapter should be called up as introductions in the East are made and should then be seated. In having an Officer escorted individually, the presiding Officer may say:

Sister Conductress (*or,* Sister Associate Conductress), escort to the East, Sister (*or,* Brother) ———— (and name title) ————

If Officers are escorted collectively, the presiding Officer may say:

Sister Conductress (*or,* Sister Associate Conductress *or, both*), escort these Officers to the East. ————

"Short Form" Opening should not be resorted to except when there is urgent need of time. The Matron should announce:

Matron. We will open in Short Form.

She may then omit, from the regular Opening Ceremonies, only the inquiries as to the stations, duties, etc., of other Officers than the A. Matron (*ask duty and emblem only*), the Patron and the Matron. She should call up (Gavel**) all Officers, (and the Special Floral Staff), as soon as the A. Matron has enumerated their titles.

Intermission.

INTERMISSION

(Recess or Recreation)

SUSPENSION.

Temporary suspension of business or procedure, for recreation or similar purposes, during a Chapter session, is accomplished in the following manner:

The Bible is to be closed and the Signet turned so that it faces towards the "East" wall, as an indication that the Chapter is in intermission. Hence:

Presiding Officer. Sister Conductress (*or,* *or,* and, Sister Associate Conductress), attend at the Altar.*

Sister (*or,* Brother) Marshal, attend to the Signet.

When the Officers thus instructed have performed their duties, they return to their seats; before being seated, they salute (the Pub. Sg. Sal.) the Presiding Officer, as indication that they have performed their duties. The Presiding Officer will then direct the A. Matron to announce an intermission, thus:

Presiding Officer. Sister Associate Matron, call the Chapter to recreation, to resume its business and procedure at the sound of the Matron's gavel in the East, by the Presiding Officer.

The A. Matron, standing at her station, will call up the Chapter and announce:

A. Matron. Sisters (and Brother *or,* and Brothers) (and visiting friends), the Chapter

* No salute is necessary in closing or in opening the Bible in connection with intermission.

is called to recreation, to resume its business and procedure at the sound of the Matron's gavel in the East, by the Presiding Officer. (Gavel.*) It is now at recreation.

Thereupon the intermission begins.

RESUMPTION.

At the termination of the intermission, the Chapter will resume its business and procedure, in the following manner:

Upon sounding the Matron's gavel in the East, the Presiding Officer will announce, and direct:

Presiding Officer. The Chapter will now resume its business and procedure.

Sister Warder, inform the Sentinel, and secure the doors.

When done, Warder reports:

Warder. Worthy Matron (*or,* use title of other Presiding Officer), the Sentinel has been informed, and the doors have been secured.

The Bible will be reopened, and the Signet will be readjusted so as to face as before the intermission.

Presiding Officer. Sister Conductress (*or, or* and, Sister Associate Conductress), attend at the Altar.

Sister (*or,* Brother) Marshal, attend to the Signet.

When these duties have been performed, these Officers will salute the Presiding Officer and be seated; the Chapter then is in order for further business and procedure.

Presiding Officer. The Chapter is in order for further business and procedure. (Gavel.*)

Closing Ceremonies.

CLOSING CEREMONIES.

The business of the Chapter having been completed, the Matron will proceed as follows:

Matron. Sister Associate Matron, does any work of charity or benevolence remain unperformed?

A. Matron. None within my knowledge, Worthy Matron.

Matron. Does any member know of any work of charity or benevolence which remains unperformed?

If there is no response, *or*, when acted upon:

Matron. Sister Warder, instruct the Sentinel that we are about to close this Chapter, and direct him to permit no interruption while we are thus engaged.

The Warder instructs the Sentinel, and then says:

Warder. Worthy Matron, there will be no interruption.

Matron. Let us unite in singing our closing ode.

The Chapter is called up. All unite in singing, and at the conclusion of the singing, the Matron will say:

Matron. Let us unite in prayer.

The Chaplain will proceed to the west of the Altar and offer the following or other appropriate prayer:

PRAYER.

Chap. Holy and merciful Father, Thou who answerest prayer, bestow upon us a parting blessing; help us to fulfil the vows we have here assumed; enable us to practice out of the Chapter the principles and lessons inculcated in it; may we be of real benefit to our fellow men and live such lives as shall merit Thy approval. May Thy loving care protect us until we meet again. Amen!

All repeat: Amen.

Matron. Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, attend at the Altar.

The Cond. closes the Bible, the A. Cond. places the sheaves at each side of it. They remain standing at the Altar until the instructions to the Warder, when they return to their stations.

Matron. Sisters and Brothers, we go forth into the world, not knowing what we shall meet, save that troubles and trials everywhere abound in the labyrinth of human life. Let us never be dismayed, for our Heavenly Father has promised to strengthen us, to comfort us and to uphold us with the right hand of His power. I now declare ———— Chapter, No. ————, closed.

Sister Warder, inform the Sentinel that the Chapter is closed.

The Warder opens the door (see p. 27, par. 2), and informs the Sentinel.

Warder. Brother Sentinel, the Worthy Matron directs me to inform you that the Chapter is closed.

The Warder then closes the door and says:

Warder. Worthy Matron, the Sentinel is informed that the Chapter is closed.

Matron. Farewell (*Gives the Public Sign of Salutation*).

All respond: Farewell! (*Return the same salute.*)

The Matron gives with gavel*.

Initiation.

(The Star Degrees.)

INITIATION

(THE STAR DEGREES.)

An Initiation, once begun, must be completed, and under no circumstances shall any part thereof be postponed to a subsequent meeting. An orderly and decorous silence should be maintained by those present while the Initiation ceremony is taking place. Talking or other noise which disturbs, seriously detracts from the impressiveness of the ceremony, and disconcerts and discourages the Officers. The official recitations should be given loud enough to be heard throughout the Chapter room, and should be delivered with emphasis. No Officer has the right to confer degrees in other language than that of the Ritual, except to adapt the text to the increase in numbers or difference in sex. The Initiation of a lady and of a gentleman (one or more of each) may take place at the same time and in the same way; the gentleman being conducted through every part of the ceremony with the lady (no more than five of each may be initiated at one meeting). However, if he prefers not to accompany her through the "Labyrinth," after taking the Covenant of Adoption, he is to be seated in the North-east of the Chapter room where he may participate as a witness in the continuing features of the ceremony, until the lady has passed through the "Labyrinth." He will then join her at the foot of the dais for their presentation to the Patron by the Cond. and the Patron's presentation of them to the Matron for the latter's Charge and Review. (See par. 1, page 95.)

"Initiation" having been reached in the Order of Business, the Matron will say:

Matron. Sister Associate Conductress, retire and ascertain if there are any candidates in waiting and report to the Worthy Patron.

The Matron then hands the gavel to the Patron, who takes charge of the Chapter.* The A. Cond. retires**, and finding a candidate (*or*, candidates) in the ante-room, ascertains her name (*or*, their names) and gives an alarm at the Chapter-entrance door. The Warder informs the Patron of the alarm. At his order, the A. Cond. is admitted. She salutes him from the West and reports: (*See "Sign of Salutation," Esoteric Key, page* 3.)

Warder. Worthy Patron, there is an alarm.

Patron. Attend to the alarm.

Warder. The Associate Conductress returning.

Patron. Admit her.

A. Cond. Worthy Patron, I find ———— (*naming the person or persons*) present and desirous of being initiated into our Order.

Patron. Sister (*or,* Brother) Secretary, has the petition (*or,* have the petitions) of this candidate (*or,* of these candidates) been presented and read in open Chapter?

Secy. It has (*or,* They have).

Patron. Has the candidate (*or,* Have the candidates) been regularly elected to receive the degrees of the Order?

Secy. She has (*or,* They have).

Patron. Sister Associate Conductress, again retire and prepare the candidate (*or,* candidates) for Initiation and, when so prepared,

* Thereafter, the Warder reports any "alarm" to the Patron until the Initiation is over.

** No one should enter or retire while the Chapter is in secret session, without the usual alarm, except by permission of the Matron.

give the usual alarm at the inner door of the Preparation Room.

The A. Cond. salutes, retires and says to the candidate (*or*, candidates):

A. Cond. Do you believe in the existence of a Supreme Being?

Cand. I do.

Each candidate should be asked and should answer the same questions.

A. Cond. Do you still entertain the desire, expressed in your petition of receiving the light and privileges of the Order of the Eastern Star?

Cand. I do.

The A. Cond. will conduct the candidate (*or*, candidates) into the Preparation Room, if out of it, and say:

A. Cond. My friend (or, friends), human life is a labyrinth through which we all wander blindly, and often in ignorance. Therefore, it is good to have an experienced friend by one's side. Permit me as such, further to prepare you for the ceremonies of our Order and to act, for a time, as your guide.

The A. Cond. then further prepares the lady (also gentleman) candidate (*or*, candidates) by having her (and him, *or*, them), remove hat, gloves, outercoat, etc., if wearing such. A thin white veil is then thrown over the lady's (*or*, ladies') head and face, and she is (*or*, both, *or*, all are) conducted to the inner door of the Preparation Room. Then the A. Cond. raps on the door * * * * * The Cond. rising at her station, says:

Cond. Worthy Patron, there is an alarm at the door of the Preparation Room.

Patron. Sister Conductress, ascertain the cause of the alarm.

Semi-darkness while the inner door of the Preparation Room is open and while the candidate is in the Chapter room, until the veil is removed.

The Cond. goes to the door, gives * * * * * distinct raps, opens the door, and says:

Cond. Who knocks at the door of our Chapter?

A. Cond. The Associate Conductress, accompanied by a candidate who is (*or,* candidates who are) desirous of being initiated into our Order.

Cond. Has the candidate (*or,* Have the candidates) made satisfactory answers to the necessary questions?

A. Cond. She has (*or,* They have).

Cond. Is she (*or,* Are they) properly prepared?

A. Cond. She is (*or,* They are).

Cond. (*to the candidate or candidates*). My friend (*or,* friends), have you well considered the request you make?

Cand. I have. (*Each must answer.*)

Cond. Are you prepared to assume our obligation of secrecy?

Cand. I am. (*Each must answer.*)

Cond. Are you also prepared faithfully to perform the duties and to accept the respon-

sibilities of a Sister (*or,* Sister and Brother, *etc.*) of the Order of the Eastern Star?

Cand. I am. (*Each must answer.*)

Cond. Learn then the first lesson of a petitioner. Be patient and wait. Your request shall be made known to the Worthy Patron, and you advised of his answer.

The Cond. closes the door, turns facing the Patron, and says:

Cond. Worthy Patron, the alarm was given by the Associate Conductress, accompanied by a candidate who is (*or,* candidates who are) desirous of being initiated into our Order.

Patron. Has she (*or,* Have they) given satisfactory answers to the necessary questions?

Cond. She has (*or,* They have).

Patron. Admit them.

The Cond. opens the door, and says:

Cond. Orders have been given by the Worthy Patron that the candidate (*or,* the candidates) be admitted. Enter, my friend (*or,* friends). We assure you a cordial welcome.

As the first candidate enters the room, the Cond. will take her by the left arm; they will come to a halt a short distance from the door; any additional candidates should be in line behind them and any gentleman candidate the last in line; the A. Cond. will escort the last candidate when there is more than one, thus acting as the rear guard of the procession. The Patron calls up the Chapter, as the candidate enters (*or,* candidates enter) the room. When the procession comes to a halt, an appropriate verse may be sung. Then the Patron seats the

Chapter. The Cond. then takes the first candidate by the left arm and, led by the Marshal, who assumes such position at that time, the whole procession passes once around the room, outside of the Star, via South, East and North, and comes to a halt in the West in front of the A. Matron, and then faces her. This should bring the A. Cond. at the North end of the standing line. If there is but one candidate, the A. Cond. will not pass around the room with her, but will remain standing in the West at the left of the A. Matron until the candidate has been brought to face the A. Matron, when the A. Cond. will take position at the candidate's right side. During the circuit of the Chapter room, the Cond. will recite the following:

Cond. You have, doubtless, well considered the step you have taken in entering this Order. It is dedicated to Charity, Truth and Loving Kindness. You come here of your own free choice. Complain not, therefore, at any trial. A seal is set upon your lips. Let it warn you to be ever silent as to all that may befall you or here be made known to you. Be not weary in well doing. Woe unto those who seek to take upon themselves burdens which they are unable to bear! Woe unto the faithless and insincere, who assume their obligations lightly, and forthwith forget them! Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths.

The Cond., having made the circuit, facing the A. Matron, will say:

Cond. Sister Associate Matron, I have the

pleasure of introducing ———— (*naming the person or persons*) to be presented by you to the Worthy Patron. She declares herself (*or,* They declare themselves) prepared to assume our obligation of secrecy, and faithfully to perform the duties of a Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers) of the Order of the Eastern Star.

A. Matron. My friend (*or,* friends), you are heartily welcome.*

Sister Conductress (*or,* and A. Cond.), cause the candidate (*or,* candidates) to face the East.

The candidate is (*or,* candidates are) caused to face the East; then the A. Matron will say:

A. Matron. Worthy Patron, I have the honor to present—(*naming the candidate, or candidates and the particular relation in which she stands, or they stand; as, the mother, wife, daughter, legally adopted daughter, foster mother of a legally adopted son, sister or half-sister of a Master Mason in good standing, (or, if dead) who was in good standing at time of his death; or a widow of a Master Mason who was in good standing at time of his death; if a Master Mason, then state that he is in good standing*), whose petition has (*or,* petitions have) been approved by this Chapter; who now declares herself (*or,* declare themselves) ready to enter upon the good work in which we

* May be accompanied with a friendly handclasp by the A. Matron.

engage, and to pledge her (*or,* their) honor, in our Covenant of Adoption, for the faithful discharge of all the duties thus assumed.

The Patron then addresses the Cand. (*or,* Cands.)

Patron. Mrs. (*or,* Miss ———, *or* Ladies), your relationship to a member (*or,* to members) of the Masonic Fraternity [and, my Brother, (*or,* Brothers), your membership in that honored Fraternity], and the recommendations presented in your behalf, convince us that you merit the honor we confer, and are worthy of the responsible trust with which you are about to be invested. The Order of the Eastern Star inculcates practical lessons, designed to impress upon all who unite with it, the important duties we owe to one another. It teaches that we are to comfort, aid and protect each other in our journey through the labyrinth of human life. By means of secret signs and passwords, which we possess, we are enabled to recognize one another wherever we may meet. We are willing to put you in possession of these secret signs and passwords that you too may be recognized as a member of the Order. We are governed by the laws and Regulations of the Grand Chapter, and a code of by-laws framed by ourselves. These laws we are pledged to obey while we remain members of the Order; and, in this obedience we shall expect you to share. The Covenant of Adoption is the medium

through which you are to be received into membership in the Order. It consists of a series of solemn pledges which you must give to this Chapter and by which you will bind yourself, not only to preserve the most sacred secrecy respecting the work of the Order, but also to the faithful performance of the duties which devolve upon you as a member of the Order. It will be necessary for you to assume this obligation before you can participate in our labors or enjoy our privileges. With this knowledge of our aims and the requirements of the Order, are you now willing to assume the Covenant of Adoption?

Cand. I am. (*Each must answer.*)

Patron. Sister Conductress, and Associate, place the candidate (*or,* candidates) in position to be obligated. (*See Esoteric Key, Page* 1, *No.* 1.)

When the candidate is (*or,* candidates are) in position, the Cond. will say:

Cond. Worthy Patron, the candidate is (*or,* candidates are) in position to be obligated.

The Chapter is called up. The Patron takes the Matron by her left hand and escorts her to the foot of the dais and waits until the A. Matron, escorted by the Marshal, reaches the East, when the Patron takes the A. Matron by her right hand, and proceeds with them to the Altar, where all stand facing the candidate (*or,* candidates), the Patron standing slightly in advance of the Matron and the A. Matron.

Patron. Mrs. (*or,* Miss) ———— (*or,* and Mrs. ————, *or,* and Miss ————, or, Ladies, *or,* and Brother ————, *or,* and Brothers ————), say "I" (*or,* Each of you say "I"), pronounce your name (*or,* names) in full, and solemnly obligate yourself (*or,* yourselves), by repeating, after me, the Covenant of Adoption—(*See Esoteric Key, Page* 1, *No.* 2.)

Patron. It is well, my Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers).

Sister Conductress (*or,* and Associate) remove the veil (*or,* veils) from the eyes of our newly adopted Sister (*or,* Sisters).

The veil is (*or,* veils are) removed and, at the same time, the lights are turned up.

Patron. In removing the veil (*or,* veils) from your eyes, my Sister (*or,* Sisters), we bring you into the full light and beauty of our Chapter room. In the ancient ceremonies of initiation, the veil was used as a symbol to teach the candidates that, as they advanced in knowledge, they were enlightened by the spirit of education; that they were led from the darkness of Ignorance into the marvelous light of Truth. We desire that the glory of the bright Eastern Star shall be clearly seen by you with no veil to dim its luster.

Fully accepting the pledge you have given us and sharing with you in its obligations, on

behalf of the Worthy Matron and in the name of ———— Chapter, No. ——, I cordially welcome you into our Order.

Arise! May your pathway be resplendent with the light of Truth.

The Patron takes the candidate by the right hand and causes her to arise. If more than one candidate, the Matron, A. Matron and other Officers or members, will assist. When a Master Mason is being initiated at the same time as a lady (*or*, ladies), and is not to go through the "Labyrinth," he is "caused to arise" with them and remain standing in his place while the words: "You will be conducted through the Labyrinth," etc., are addressed to the ladies; then, he is addressed, and when the Patron and the Matron start to return to the dais, the A. Cond. will escort him to a seat in the North-east of the Chapter room. He will join the ladies (now Sisters) after they have been through the "Labyrinth."

Patron. My Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), you will be conducted through the "Labyrinth" and at the various "points of the Star," be given historical facts illustrating the possession and exhibition of virtues which we should endeavor to imitate. You will also be informed regarding the Signs, Passwords, Colors and Emblems of our Order. Give careful attention to what is said and done, and let the lessons conveyed by the impressive ceremonies, through which you are now to pass, sink deep into your heart (*or,* hearts).

[If a Brother is a candidate (*or*, Brothers are candidates) but is (*or*, are) not to pass through the "Labyrinth," the Patron will say to him (*or*, them):

Patron. My Brother (*or*, Brothers) you will now be seated in the Northeast of the Chapter room, where you will carefully note the historical facts and other information, being given at the various "points of the Star."

Patron. Sister Associate Conductress, escort the Brother (*or*, Brothers) to a seat (*or*, to seats) in the Northeast. At the conclusion of the "Labyrinth" instructions, present him (*or*, them) at the East.]

The Patron and Matron return to the dais. The A. Matron, escorted by the Marshal, returns to her station. If there is only one candidate, the A. Cond. resumes her station. The Chapter is seated. The Patron then says:

Patron. Sister Conductress (*or*, and Associate) escort our Sister (*or*, Sisters; *or*, and Brother, *or*, and Brothers) to the several "points of the Star" for further enlightenment.

The procession, led by the Marshal, proceeds to the first "point of the Star," as soon as the Patron has given the order as above; and lines up there in the form of a crescent, with the candidates standing between the Cond. and the A. Cond., when there is more than one candidate. The Marshal will stand behind the chair of each "point."

In the "Labyrinth" the movements should be like

the outline of the Star. The candidate should be nearest the Altar. (*See Esoteric Key, page* 5.)

1. Leaving the Altar, advance to the right; then pass around Ruth, and make a direct turn, inside to Adah.
2. To Martha, outside, straight line to Ruth.
3. To Electa, outside, straight line to Esther.
4. To Adah, outside, straight line to Martha.
5. To and around Esther's station via right of Altar to Electa. Inside Star and straight lines around Altar to the East.

Cond. Sister Adah, by direction of the Worthy Patron, I present to you our Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), to whom you are to relate the story of "Adah," Jephthah's daughter, illustrating filial devotion, integrity and truth. Also instruct her (*or,* them) in the Sign, Password, Color and Emblem of this degree.

Adah. In the Book of Judges we read:

"And Jephthah vowed a vow unto the Lord, and said, If thou shalt without fail deliver the children of Ammon into mine hands, then it shall be, that whatsoever cometh forth of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from the children of Ammon, shall surely be the Lord's, and I will offer it up for a burnt offering."

Jephthah went forth to battle. The victory was gained. Jephthah returned to Mizpeh, exulting in his success. The door of his house

opened, and "behold, his daughter came out to meet him with timbrels and with dances;" Jephthah, when he saw her, rent his clothes and in the anguish of his heart cried aloud, "Alas, my daughter! thou hast brought me very low, for I have opened my mouth unto the Lord, and I cannot go back." "Adah," casting aside the instruments of rejoicing, answered: "My father, if thou hast opened thy mouth unto the Lord, do to me according to that which hath proceeded out of thy mouth." She had but one request to make: She asked that she might go among the mountains for two months and there with her young friends, prepare to meet, in calmness and resignation, her impending fate. The request was granted.

When the time had expired, she was seen, followed by a long train of her friends, winding her way down the mountain-side, to the place where her father was prepared to discharge his obligation.

She approached him, and, with a kiss of affection, bade him farewell. Taking hold of the veil* which she wore, he threw it gently over her face. She rapidly unveiled herself, and said that she needed not to have her face covered, for she was not afraid. Her father replied that he could not fulfil his vow while she looked upon him, and again cast the veil over

* Use veil in this part of the Ritual recitation, but not in the Esoteric Key illustration.

her. She threw it off the second time, and turning from him, said that she would look up to the heavens, so that he might not be unnerved by the sight of her face. A third time, however, he insisted, and a third time she as resolutely cast it off, this time holding the ends of it firmly in her hands. Again she declared that she would cast her eyes upward upon the Source of Light.—Jephthah redeemed his vow, and because of the noble qualities she had exhibited, Jephthah's daughter became famous in the annals of Scripture.

This degree inculcates filial devotion, integrity and truth.

The Sign of this degree is given thus:—

Adah will silently give the Sign as described in the Esoteric Key, page 2.

The password is ————

The Color appropriate is Blue (may present a blue flower). It is emblematic of truth, and should remind us to be faithful to obligation.

My Emblem is the Sword and Veil united. The sword in the father's hand was symbolic of his authority. The veil alludes to "Adah's" determination that her view should not be obscured.

Sister Conductress (*or,* and Associate), escort our Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), to the second "point of the Star" for further information and instruction.

While the Cond. and candidate (*or,* candidates) are passing from one "point of the Star" to another, an appropriate hymn may be sung, or music played.

The Cond. proceeds with the candidate (*or,* candidates) to the second "point of the Star." (*See Esoteric Key, page* 5.)

Cond. Sister Ruth, by direction of the Worthy Patron, I present to you our Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers) to whom you are to relate the story of Ruth, illustrating constancy, loyalty and industry. Also instruct her (*or,* them) in the Sign, Password, Color and Emblem of this degree.

Ruth. Ruth was of the nation of Moab, an idolatrous people. She married Mahlon, a native of Bethlehem, who had taken up his residence in the land of Moab, where he died. He was a worshipper of God, and, by his pious example and teachings, Ruth was converted to the true religion. A few happy years followed, and then the calamity of widowhood came upon her. Her mother-in-law, Naomi, aged and destitute, decided to return to Bethlehem. She urged Ruth to remain in her own country among her own friends, and not to follow her into a strange land, where nothing but poverty seemed to await her. Ruth lovingly replied: "Entreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee; for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people, and

thy God, my God." Leaving home and friends, she journeyed in company with her mother-in-law to Bethlehem, where they arrived in due time, way-worn and so poor that she was compelled to seek some means of securing their livelihood. There was nothing, however, that she could do, save to go into the barley fields —for it was the time of harvest—and glean among the poorest classes of the people.

She was unaccustomed to such labor, for she had been reared in luxury, and the toil was too great. The sharp stubble wounded her feet, the blazing sun oppressed her brain, and just before the hour of noon, with only two handfuls of barley* as the result of her labor, she sought the shade of a tree to rest before retiring from the field.

At this moment Boaz, the owner of the field, entered. He observed near the gleaners the form of one differing in garb and manners from the others and said to the overseer, "Who is this?" He learned that she was a woman from Moab, who had asked permission to glean among the sheaves, that she was evidently unaccustomed to such labor, for she had been there since the sunrise and had gathered but two handfuls of barley. This aroused the kindly feelings of Boaz, and he went to her to speak a word of sympathy, and to offer her relief.

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* Use two sheaves of barley (or wheat) here, but not in giving Sign as per Esoteric Key.

As she saw him approach, she supposed him to be the owner of the field, coming to order her away. He addressed to her tender words of encouragement, which filled the heart of Ruth with thankfulness, and she said to Boaz: "Why have I found grace in thine eyes, that thou shouldst take knowledge of me; seeing I am a stranger?" And Boaz answered and said unto her: "It hath fully been shewed me all that thou hast done unto thy mother-in-law since the death of thine husband; and how thou hast left thy father, and thy mother, and the land of thy nativity and art come unto a people which thou knewest not heretofore. The Lord recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the Lord God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust." He encouraged her to persevere. From the provisions brought for his reapers, he bade her eat and drink. He directed the reapers to drop barley in her way, that she might gather an ample supply. When she returned home, she bore with her enough for their immediate necessities.

This degree inculcates constancy, loyalty and industry.

The Sign of this degree is given thus:—

Ruth will silently give the Sign as described in the Esoteric Key, page 2.

The Password is ———

The Color appropriate is Yellow (may present a yellow flower). It is emblematic of

harvest and reminds us of the ripened grain in the field of Boaz, in which Ruth was a humble gleaner.

My Emblem, the Sheaf, symbolizes plenty; from its small but distinct parts, it teaches us that, by patient industry, gleaning here a little and there a little, we may provide for our support when the infirmities of age unfit us for the fatigues of labor.

Sister Conductress (*or,* and Associate), escort our Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), to the third "point of the Star" for further information and instruction.

The Cond. proceeds with the candidate (*or,* candidates) to the third "point of the Star." (*See Esoteric Key, page* 5.)

Cond. Sister Esther, by direction of the Worthy Patron, I present to you our Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), to whom you are to relate the story of Esther, illustrating justice, courage and fidelity. Also instruct her (*or,* them) in the Sign, Password, Color and Emblem of this degree.

Esther. Esther was a Jewish maiden who lived about five hundred years before the Christian era. Her matchless beauty attracted the attention of the great Ahasuerus, King of Persia, and he selected her to be his wife. The King married her with royal magnificence and amidst national rejoicings. Her virtues secured

his love and her wonderful genius gained his respect and admiration. In time she became his confidant, and her knowledge of government affairs enabled her, in a season of peril, to save her people from destruction.

The enemies of the Jews, who were numerous and powerful, had brought false accusations before the king, and had persuaded him to promulgate an edict, that, upon a certain day, the entire race throughout Persia should be exterminated. No sooner did Queen Esther learn of this cruel edict, than she resolved to save her people or perish with them. The King had often admitted his indebtedness to her counsels and had pledged his royal word to grant her any request she might make of him, even "to the half of the kingdom." Esther now resolved to test his sincerity, and to appeal to him at the risk of her life. She attired herself in her white silken robes, placed a brilliant crown upon her head, gathered her maidens around her, and went in state to the palace of the king.

It was the day of Grand Council; a gathering of the governors, princes and officers of Persia. The dependent nations had sent in their deputations to pay homage and tribute. The royal guards thronged in the ante-chambers of the palace. It was a law that none should enter the king's presence without summons, under penalty of death, unless the king's golden scepter should be extended as a sign of royal

pardon. As the Queen passed, the sentinels reminded her of this law and warned her of her danger; but she entered the great Council-chamber.

The scene was magnificent. The king upon his throne of gold and ivory; the gorgeous equipages of his officers, and the splendor of the apartment itself, all made up a display rarely equaled and never surpassed. Through the throng, Esther passed, and, amidst deathly silence, stood before the king.

It was the crisis of her life, and the wise woman realized it. She at once reminded him of his former pledges, by a sign understood between them.* She saw the king's golden scepter extended, and hastened to secure her pardon. Coming forward, she knelt and "touched the top of the scepter." "What wilt thou, Queen Esther?" said the king, "and what is thy request? It shall be given thee even to the half of the kingdom." The admiring throng applauded the generosity of their monarch, and, as he placed her beside him on the throne, they expressed their delight at her beauty, discretion and favor with the king.

The sacred narrative informs us of the consummate tact with which Esther pursued the advantage she had gained. She achieved a complete success and saved her people, who, to this day, keep an annual festival in her honor.

* Give no sign. It is not known what sign she gave.

This degree inculcates justice, courage and fidelity.

The Sign of this degree is given thus:—

Esther will silently give the Sign as described in the Esoteric Key, page 2.

The Password is ———

The Color appropriate is White (may present a white flower). It is emblematic of purity and reminds us that we should be actuated by pure and lofty purposes.

My Emblem is the Crown and Scepter united. It typifies royalty and power.

Sister Conductress (*or,* and Associate), escort our Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, or, and Brothers) to the fourth "point of the Star" for further information and instruction.

The Cond. proceeds with the candidate (*or,* candidates) to the fourth "point of the Star." (*See Esoteric Key, page* 5.)

Cond. Sister Martha, by direction of the Worthy Patron, I present to you our Sister (*or,* Sisters; *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), to whom you are to relate the story of Martha, illustrating abiding faith. Also instruct her (*or* them) in the Sign, Password, Color and Emblem of this degree.

Martha. The story of Martha is that of a young woman, oppressed with grief at the loss of an only brother. Martha and Mary, with their brother Lazarus, were residents of Beth-

any. They were known among the people of the country as followers of Jesus. Upon a certain occasion, during the absence of their Divine Master, Lazarus was taken suddenly and violently ill, and in a short time died. At the close of the fourth day, intelligence reached them that Jesus was returning to Bethany. Martha hastened to Him, and, overwhelmed with emotion, fell on her knees and raised her hands imploringly towards His face, crying, "Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died! But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee."

Then said Jesus: "Thy brother shall rise again." She replied, "I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

Jesus said unto her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?"

This degree inculcates abiding faith.

The Sign of this degree is given thus:—

Martha will silently give the Sign as described in the Esoteric Key, page 3.

The Password is ———

The Color appropriate is Green (may present a green flower). It is emblematic of vitality and should remind us of an ever living hope and of the immortality of the soul.

My Emblem, the Broken Column, typifies the uncertainty of human existence.

Sister Conductress (*or,* and Associate), escort our Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), to the fifth "point of the Star" for further information and instruction.

The Cond. proceeds with the candidate (*or,* candidates) to the fifth "point of the Star." (*See Esoteric Key, page* 5.)

Cond. Sister Electa, by direction of the Worthy Patron, I present to you our Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), to whom you are to relate the story of "Electa," illustrating beneficence, fortitude and steadfastness. Also instruct her (*or,* them) in the Sign, Password, Color and Emblem of this degree.

Electa. "Electa" is the name adopted to represent the beautiful character spoken of in the Second Epistle of John, and to whom that Epistle is addressed. The legend, as it is portrayed in the Order of the Eastern Star, recites that she was a lady of high repute in the land of Judea, renowned for her benevolence to the poor—a veritable "Mother in Israel." Her education had been in accordance with the times and customs of the people among whom she was reared. The legendary story of her life affords an example of devotion to charity, fortitude under persecution, and martyrdom in defence of the Truth. "Electa" professed before the

world her faith in the doctrines of Christ, although she well knew to do so was to expose herself to reproaches, to persecution and to death.

Her splendid mansion became an abode for weary and persecuted pilgrims. Her wealth was devoted to the relief of the poor. The foot-sore beggar, coming up the great avenue to the door, was made welcome. She refreshed him with wholesome food, cheered and clothed him, nor suffered him to depart until he was strengthened for his journey. Throughout the country she was famous for her benevolence and piety.

A fearful persecution began, and any one who confessed to be a disciple of Christ was required to renounce his faith, or suffer the penalty of the law. "Electa" was visited by a band of Roman soldiers, whose chief officer proposed the test of "casting a cross upon the ground and putting the foot upon it," whereupon he would report her recantation, and she would be saved from a painful death. She refused, and with her family was cast into a dungeon and kept there one year. Then, a Roman judge who had partaken of her hospitality, and who was desirous of befriending her, came and offered her another opportunity to renounce her faith, promising that, if she would do so, she would be protected. Again she refused, and this brought the drama to a

close. She and her family, with thousands of others, were put to a cruel death. While she was expiring she prayed forgiveness for those who had caused her death, thus exemplifying the injunction, "Love one another!"

This degree inculcates beneficence, fortitude and steadfastness.

The Sign of this degree is given thus:—

Electa will silently give the Sign as described in the Esoteric Key, page 3.

The Password is ———

The Color appropriate is Red (may present a red flower). It is emblematic of ardor, zeal and sacrifice.

My Emblem is the Cup, which reminds us of the hospitality and afflictions of "Electa."

Sister Conductress (*or,* and Associate), escort our Sister (*or,* Sisters; *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers) to the Worthy Patron for further information and instruction.

The Cond. proceeds with the Sister (*or,* Sisters; *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers) to the foot of the dais in the East (*see Esoteric Key, page* 5); and any Brother is (*or,* Brothers are) brought by the A. Cond. to join her (*or,* them) there, if such Brother (*or,* Brothers) did not pass through the "Labyrinth." All stand facing the Patron. The Marshal's Initiation duties end here.

Cond. Worthy Patron, I present to you our Sister who has (*or,* Sisters; *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers; who have), according to your direction, passed through the "Labyrinth" and

to the several "points of the Star," where the stories of the noble lives of the five heroines of the Order have been related, and the necessary instruction has been given.

[If a Brother (*or,* the Brothers) did not pass through the "Labyrinth," the Cond. will also say:

"I also present our Brother (*or,* Brothers)".]

She is (*or,* They are) prepared to receive further knowledge of our ceremonies and of our principles.

Patron. My Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), we hail with pleasure your coming among us. The great work in which we are engaged is sufficient for us all. I take pleasure in presenting you to our Worthy Matron, who will now deliver the Charge and Review:

The Matron descends from the dais and gives the following:

CHARGE AND REVIEW.

Matron. My Sister* (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), for, by this endearing title (*or,* these endearing titles) you will hereafter be known among us, in behalf of ——— Chapter, No. ———, I cordially welcome you to a participation in our privileges and duties. We are laboring to increase our own happiness and to promote that of others.

* The Matron's greeting should be accompanied by a friendly handclasp.

Our experience teaches us that this world is poorly adapted to impart felicity, and that it is by combining the efforts of the good and the true in the works of benevolence and religion, that happiness is acquired and extended. The greater our ability to do good, the more happiness we may enjoy and impart.

Our meetings, like the councils of the family circle, are held in private, that we may arrange our plans for the good work in which we are engaged, without interruption from those who may not be in accord with us or who do not understand our motives. Here we strive to learn our duties as beings who possess an immortal part; and when at home, or before the world, it should be our earnest care to perform them. We should cultivate a spirit of harmony, that we may be better able to do our duty to each other, and to advance the great work in which we are engaged. Henceforth, we shall expect you to participate with us in these aspirations and efforts. As a large portion of our work lies in acquiring a knowledge of how best to practice the great moral and social principles, love, relief and truth, and in endeavoring to find and to follow the path that leads to everlasting life, we often unite in addressing the Heavenly Throne, pleading with God that He will richly endow us with the spirit of faith, truth and wisdom. In such a prayer, let us, with our Chaplain, all unite.

The Patron calls up the Chapter. The members step forward and join hands, to form a circular chain around the Altar, broken at the East. The Chaplain goes to the Altar, faces the East and delivers the Prayer given below. The Cond. and candidate (*or,* candidates) stands midway between the dais and the Altar, facing the West. The Matron unites with the chain at the North-east end of it, next to the candidate (*or,* candidates). The Patron, in the same way, but with the South-east end of it, next to the Cond. When the Chaplain says, "golden chain thus lengthened," the Matron extends left hand to the candidate (*or,* candidate nearest her, *if more than one, in which case, the candidates will join hands between the Matron and Cond.*). The Patron extends right hand to the Cond., thus completing the circular chain. All will then raise their joined hands as high as the chin and retain that position until the Chaplain says, "fall away in death." All will then disengage hands and drop them, but not simultaneously; they will remain standing. A Chapter, having no Chaplain, the Patron will officiate.

PRAYER.

Source of all Wisdom, Truth and Love! Grant that, in the reception of this Sister (*or,* these Sisters, *or,* and this Brother, *or,* and these Brothers), we may add strength to our strength, and grace to our grace. Oh, may the golden chain thus lengthened become the brighter for this link (*or,* these links), and we be strengthened for the great work in which we are engaged. Enlarge our powers to benefit mankind and to honor Thee, our God. When, one by one, each link shall fall away in

death, may the parting be temporary and the future meeting eternal. May we realize in this world and in the world where death comes not, the happiness of loving and serving Thee. Amen.

All respond: Amen.

An appropriate hymn is sung. At the conclusion of the singing, the members will return to their seats by making a circuit of the Altar, marching in opposite directions, the Matron leading line of the half-circle on the North, going in front of candidate (*or*, candidates), South and westward, the Patron leading the line of the half-circle on the South, going behind candidate (*or*, candidates), North and westward. The Marshal, remaining in the East at the foot of the dais, will see that the processional lines are properly formed and maintained.

The Cond., A. Cond. and candidate (*or*, candidates) all remain standing in the East and not far from the foot of the dais, facing the West. When the Matron and Patron reach the East at the end of their respective circuits, the Patron will take the Matron by the right hand and escort her to her station. The Patron seats the Chapter.

The candidate (*or*, candidates) should now be seated near the dais on the North side of the Chapter room, more or less facing the Patron. If that space is reserved for the organ, a similar position on the South side may be selected. The Cond. and A. Cond. should also be seated. If there is more than one candidate, the A. Cond., as well as the Cond., remains with them; otherwise the A. Cond. resumes her station.

Patron. You were informed, my Sister (*or*, Sisters, *or*, and Brother, *or*, and Brothers),

when first you entered this Chapter room, that we are in possession of certain secrets, by means of which we are enabled to recognize one another wherever we may meet, and that we purposed to put you in possession of these secrets that you too might be recognized as a member (*or,* as members) of our Order. You, (*my Sister, *or,* my Sisters), have been conducted to the several "points of the Star," where you have received the promised information. You were there instructed in the Signs, Passwords, Colors and Emblems of the degrees.

[If a Brother is (*or,* Brothers are) a candidate (*or,* candidates), and did not pass through the "Labyrinth," the Patron will also say:

Patron. My brother (*or,* Brothers), you have participated with the Sister (*or,* Sisters) in this part of the ceremony, from your place in the Northeast of the Chapter room.]

You will (*both, *or,* all), now receive further instruction. This, if properly understood, will enable you to make yourself (*or,* yourselves) known as a member (*or,* as members) of the Order of the Eastern Star.

I would remind you that there are five degrees in this Order, conferred in its Initiation.

As each successive Star Point degree is mentioned, the respective Star Point Officer will rise.

* This form is to be used when a Brother has (or, Brothers have) not passed through the "Labyrinth."

The first degree is that of "Adah," the Daughter. The Sign of the degree is:—(*Adah gives Sign*). The Password is:—(*Adah gives Password and resumes seat*).

The second, is that of Ruth, the Widow. The Sign of the degree is:—(*Ruth gives Sign*). The Password is:—(*Ruth gives Password and resumes seat*).

The third, is that of Esther, the Wife. The Sign of the degree is:—(*Esther gives Sign*). The Password is:—(*Esther gives Password and resumes seat*).

The fourth, is that of Martha, the Sister. The Sign of the degree is:—(*Martha gives Sign*). The Password is:—(*Martha gives Password and resumes seat*).

The fifth, is that of "Electa," the Mother. The Sign of the degree is:—(*Electa gives Sign*). The Password is:—(*Electa gives Password and resumes seat.*)

Should you desire to visit a Chapter where you are not acquainted, it will be necessary for you to prove your membership in the Order; you will do so by undergoing an examination, in which you will be required to give specific answers to certain test questions. These questions will be asked in the order the degrees have been conferred. That you may be familiar with the different features of such an examination, I will, with the assistance of the Con-

ductress, now rehearse it. Carefully observe my questions and her answers, as her answers should be yours, were you undergoing the Examination.—(*See Esoteric Key, page* 1, *No.* 3.)

Note.—The Examination may be reviewed, during any meeting, irrespective of Initiation.

It is now necessary to give you an explanation of the Signet which is always to be found in the East* of the Chapter room. Upon it are inscribed the five-pointed Star, the significant Colors, and the Emblems of the several degrees of the Order. Upon it will also be found the ————. (*See Esoteric Key, page* 4, *No.* 4.)

My Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), you will now be conducted to the Secretary's desk, where you will sign the By-Laws of ——— Chapter, No. ———, thereby consummating your membership, becoming endowed with all the rights and benefits and subject to all the penalties.

Sister Conductress (and Associate) escort our Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers) to the Secretary, for enrollment.

The candidate is (*or,* candidates are) conducted to the Secretary's desk, where she signs (*or,* they sign) the By-Laws. During this ceremony, appropriate

* It is to be placed a short distance in front and a little south of the Patron's station; preferably on the dais, or similarly elevated, and directly or approximately facing the "West."

music may be rendered. The candidate is (*or*, candidates are) then returned to her seat (*or*, their seats) near the dais, where the Patron will greet and welcome her (*or*, them) and instruct her (*or*, them) regarding "trespass" upon the "prohibited space." In conducting the candidate, *or* candidates, to the Secretary's desk, to sign the By-Laws, they should be impressed regarding "trespass" upon the "prohibited space" by conducting them, if they are seated in the North-east, by way of the West and returning them the same way; if they are seated in the South-east, they should be taken directly to the Secretary's desk and returned directly to their seats.

Cond. Worthy Patron, the By-Laws have been signed.

Patron. My Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or*, and Brothers), having consummated your membership in the Order of the Eastern Star by signing our By-Laws, I greet you and cordially welcome you into our midst.

It is necessary to inform you, as a new member (*or,* as new members) of this Order, that when the Chapter is at work, all persons are prohibited from crossing the space between the Altar and the station of the Presiding Officer in the East. The exceptions to this are such non-observances as may be necessary in conducting degree and other Chapter ceremonies, in obligating a visiting Master Mason, and in the election and the installation of Officers.

The Worthy Matron will now address you.

Matron. My Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), I congratulate you upon being accepted as a member (*or,* as members) of this Order. I trust that the information and instruction given you, have made such an impression upon your mind (*or,* minds), that you will endeavor to practice the virtues we have reviewed. May you realize that, in your new relation to this Order, you have assumed pleasant obligations to comfort, aid and protect those with whom you are united. We should strive at all times to deal kindly with our fellows, to raise the fallen and to pour the oil of consolation into the troubled soul. We are to speak gently, to be forgiving and to be faithful in the performance of duty. Such is the nature of our obligations to one another, that we must do no act of injustice, speak no word of unkindness, nor neglect to defend the good name of a Sister or of a Brother. Possessing these virtues and qualities, you will be imbued with the spirit of the Order of the Eastern Star, which has for its inspiration the Star of Bethlehem, which will guide all the faithful to the new Jerusalem, that city not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

If you will bear in mind the virtues of filial devotion and of integrity, represented by the "Point of 'Adah'"; the example of constancy and of industry, represented by the "Point of Ruth"; of courage and of fidelity, represented

by the "Point of Esther"; of abiding faith, represented by the "Point of Martha"; of beneficence and of fortitude, represented by the "Point of 'Electa'," and will exemplify them in your daily intercourse with your associates, you will prove a blessing to this Order, and to the world. May you be inspired by the bright examples you will find among those with whom you are now associated. May this Chapter be strengthened in all its good works through your efforts. May the Order of the Eastern Star be benefited by your membership. May He, Whose Star we have seen in the East, and Whom we are come to worship, bless the alliance now formed.

Patron. I now call your attention to the ballot. It is the medium through which membership in the Order is acquired. If the ballot is properly prepared, the ballot-box is furnished with a number of suitable white balls and suitable black cubes. The white balls are cast in favor of the admission of the petitioner and the black cubes against it. The right to vote on every petition that is presented to the Chapter is a sacred trust, confided to each and all, for the protection of the Chapter, and for no other purpose, and it must, under no circumstances, be violated. As you have passed the scrutiny of the ballot, so has every member of the Order, and so must every one who will come after you. You are never to cast a black

cube out of spite, or in a spirit of pique or revenge. Such a spirit, or such a motive, is entirely foreign to the teachings of the Order of the Eastern Star, and any member thus casting a ballot against a petitioner, is unworthy of membership. On the other hand, if you know of anything which renders the applicant unfit for membership, it is your duty to exercise your right of objection.

The gavel, in the hands of the Presiding Officer, is an instrument of power.

One blow of the gavel calls the members to order, seats them when standing, or establishes a decision.

Patron strikes one blow.

Two blows call the Officers (and the Special Floral Staff) to arise.

Patron strikes two blows.

Three blows call up every person present.

Patron strikes three blows.

Patron. May our Heavenly Father, in His wisdom, guide and direct your footsteps into the paths of Charity, Truth and Loving Kindness. Amen.

All repeat: Amen.

Patron. Sister Conductress (*or,* and Associate), cause the Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers) to face the West.

When this has been done, the Patron will say:

Patron. Sisters and Brothers of ———— Chapter, No. ——— and visitors from other Chapters, it is with pleasure that I present to you our new member (*or,* members).* At your first opportunity, extend to her (*or,* them) a sisterly and a brotherly greeting.

The Chapter is seated.

Patron. Sister Conductress (*or,* and Associate), escort our new member (*or,* members) to a seat (*or,* to seats).

The Patron returns the gavel to the Matron and takes his seat.

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* May state name or names if desired.

KEY TO ORDER IN INITIATION.

1. A. Cond. retires to ascertain if candidates are waiting.

2. A. Cond. returns and reports.

3. Secretary informs Patron of candidate's (*or*, candidates') status.

4. A. Cond. retires to prepare and to introduce candidate (*or*, candidates).

5. An alarm at the Preparation-room door.

6. Cond. attends to the alarm.

7. Cond. reports to the Patron.

8. A. Cond.-procession admitted.

9. Circuit made of Chapter room.

10. Candidate (*or*, candidates) presented to A. Matron.

11. A. Matron presents candidate (*or*, candidates) to Patron.

12. Patron receives candidate (*or*, candidates) and reviews purposes and methods of the O. E. S.

13. Candidate (*or*, candidates) placed at Altar.

14. Patron, Matron and A. Matron advance to the Altar.

15. Candidate assumes (*or*, candidates assume) Covenant; informed; caused to arise.

16. Patron, Matron and A. Matron return to their stations. (Master Mason candidate (*or*, candidates) escorted to place in the North-east, if not to pass through the "Labyrinth.")

17. Lady or ladies (or all candidates) sent to the "Star Points" ("Labyrinth").

18. Candidate (*or*, candidates) presented to Patron at dais.

19. Candidate (*or*, candidates) presented by Patron to Matron.

20. Matron's "Charge and Review."

21. Chapter-chain, prayer, and circuit march.

22. *Patron.* "You were informed, etc."; Examination (Esoteric Key, page 1, No. 3).

23. *Patron.* "It is now necessary to give, etc." ("Signet") (see Esoteric Key, page 4, No. 4.)

24. Patron sends candidate (*or*, candidates) to sign By-Laws.

25. Patron welcomes candidate (*or*, candidates) as member (*or*, members), and instructs regarding "trespass" on "prohibited space."

26. Matron gives congratulatory address.

27. Patron explains ballot.

28. Patron explains gavel.

29. Benediction.

30. Patron presents the newly initiated member (*or*, members) to the Chapter.

Initiation—
Master Mason.

INITIATION—MASTER MASON.

A Master Mason (*or,* Master Masons) being the only candidate (*or,* candidates) in waiting, the following form should be substituted for the regular Initiation. The Order of Business having reached "Initiation," the Matron will say:

Matron. Sister Associate Conductress, retire and ascertain if there are any candidates in waiting, and report to the Worthy Patron.

The Matron then hands the gavel to the Patron who takes charge of the Chapter. The A. Cond. retires, and, finding a gentleman candidate (*or,* gentlemen candidates) in the ante-room, ascertains his name (*or,* their names), then returns to the Chapter room and reports.

Warder. Worthy Patron, there is an alarm.

Patron. Attend to the alarm.

Warder. The Associate Conductress returning.

Patron. Admit her.

A. Cond. Worthy Patron, I find in waiting Mr. ——— (*or,* and Mr. ———, *naming the person or persons*), who is (*or,* are), I am informed, a Master Mason (*or,* Master Masons), in good standing in his (*or,* their) Lodge (*or,* Lodges), and is (*or,* are) desirous of being initiated into our Order.

Patron. Sister Secretary, has the petition of this candidate (*or,* have the petitions of these candidates) been presented and read in open Chapter?

Secy. It has (*or,* They have).

Patron. Has he (*or,* Have they) been regularly elected to receive the degrees of the Order of the Eastern Star?

Secy. He has (*or,* They have).

Patron. Sister Associate Conductress, again retire, prepare and introduce the candidate (*or,* candidates), first giving the alarm at the inner door of the Preparation Room.

The A. Cond. retires, prepares the candidate (*or,* candidates), (*see page* 55), and gives the alarm at the inner door of the Preparation Room. The Cond. rises at her station and says:

Cond. Worthy Patron, there is an alarm at the door of the Preparation Room.

Patron. Sister Conductress, ascertain the cause of the alarm.

Semi-darkness while the inner door of the Preparation Room is open and while the candidate is (*or,* candidates are) in the Chapter room, until the candidate arrives (*or,* candidates arrive) at the Altar. At that instant the lights should be turned up.

The Cond. goes to the door, gives ***** distinct raps, opens the door, and says:

Cond. Who knocks at the door of our Chapter?

A. Cond. The Associate Conductress, accompanied by a Master Mason, who is (*or,* Master Masons, who are) desirous of being initiated into our Order.

Cond. (*to the candidate or candidates*). Are

you willing to assume our obligation of secrecy and faithfully to perform the duties imposed by the laws of our Order?

Cand. I am. (*Each must answer.*)

Cond. You will wait until the Worthy Patron is informed of your request.

The Cond., closing the door, says:

Cond. Worthy Patron, the alarm was given by the Associate Conductress, accompanied by a Master Mason who is (*or,* Master Masons who are) desirous of being initiated into our Order.

Patron. Has he (*or,* Have they) given satisfactory answers to the necessary questions?

Cond. He has (*or,* They have).

Patron. Admit them.

The Cond. opens the door and says:

Cond. Orders have been given by the Worthy Patron that the candidate (*or,* the candidates) be admitted. Enter my friend (*or,* friends). We assure you of a cordial welcome.

As the candidate enters (*or,* candidates enter), the Cond., preceded by the Marshal, escorts the candidate (*or,* candidates) to the West, and presents him (*or,* them) to the A. Matron:

Cond. Sister Associate Matron, I have the pleasure of introducing Mr. ——— (*or,* and Mr. ———, *etc.*). He is (*or,* They are) desirous of being initiated into our Order.

A. Matron. My friend* (or, friends), you are heartily welcome.

Sister Conductress, cause Mr. ——— (*or,* and Mr. ———, *etc.*) to face the East.

When this is done the A. Matron will say:

A. Matron. Worthy Patron, I have the honor of presenting to you Mr. ——— (*or,* and Mr. ———, *etc.*), whose petition has (*or,* petitions have) been accepted by this Chapter, and who is (*or,* are) desirous of being initiated into our Order.

Patron. Brother (*or,* Brothers) ———, I cordially welcome you into this Order, especially as a candidate (*or,* as candidates) for membership in this Chapter. The purposes of the Order of the Eastern Star are beneficent and social; its lessons are scriptural; its teachings are moral; its obligations are mutual to all of its members, and are based upon the principle, that whatever benefits are due from the Masonic Fraternity to the mothers, wives, daughters, sisters and widows of Master Masons, corresponding benefits are due from them to the Brotherhood.

To enable us to accomplish these purposes to the best advantage, we make use of certain signs and ceremonies, by means of which we recognize those who are fraternally connected with us, and mutually bind ourselves, by an obligation,

* May be accompanied with a friendly handclasp by the A. Matron.

not only to secrecy, but to the faithful performance of the duties which devolve upon us as members of this Order.

With this knowledge of its purposes and its principles, are you willing to assume the obligations and responsibilities appertaining to the Order of the Eastern Star—the Covenant of Adoption?

Cand. I am. (*Each must answer.*)

Patron. Sister Conductress (*or,* and Associate), place the candidate (*or,* candidates) in position to be obligated. (*See Esoteric Key, Page* 1, *No.* 1.)

Cond. Worthy Patron, the candidate is (*or,* candidates are) in position to be obligated.

The Chapter is called up. The Patron takes the Matron by her left hand and escorts her to the foot of the dais and waits until the A. Matron, escorted by the Marshal, reaches the East, when the Patron takes the A. Matron by her right hand, and proceeds with them to the Altar, where all stand facing the candidate (*or,* candidates), the Patron standing slightly in advance of the Matron and the A. Matron.

Patron. Brother ————, *or* (Brothers ————), say "I," pronounce your name (*or,* names) in full, and solemnly obligate yourself (*or,* yourselves), by repeating, after me, the Covenant of Adoption.—(*See Esoteric Key, Page* 1, *No.* 2.)

Patron. It is well, my Brother (*or,* Brothers).

Patron. Arise, my Brother (*or,* Brothers). (*The Patron taking him by the right hand and assisting him to arise.*)

If more than one candidate, the Matron, A. Matron and other Officers will assist.

You will now be conducted to the East, where the Worthy Matron will deliver to you, the Charge and Review to a Master Mason.

The Patron, Matron and A. Matron return to their stations. The Patron seats the Chapter; then the Cond. (*if there is more than one candidate, the A. Cond. assists*) escorts the candidate (*or,* candidates) to the East, where the Matron delivers the Charge and Review to a Master Mason. Then the prayer, hymn, and march follow; after which the Patron reminds the Brother of the five degrees and gives the O. E. S. Examination; he also explains the Signet, after which he directs that the candidate (*or,* candidates) be escorted to the Secretary's desk to sign the Chapter By-Laws and then be returned to the foot of the dais, where he is (*or,* they are) greeted as a member (*or,* as members).

CHARGE AND REVIEW TO A MASTER MASON.

Matron. My Brother (*or,* Brothers), I congratulate you on being found worthy to become a member (*or,* members) of this organization. A few reflections, as to its principles and purposes, may not be deemed inappropriate, as henceforth we shall expect you to participate with us in our aspirations and efforts.

When, in the vicissitudes of life, we are called

upon to assume new and untried duties, we are conscious of an increased responsibility. We ask ourselves, "Why have we taken these new obligations?" "How far will they lead us?" "In what way will they contribute to our happiness, and to that of those around us?" It is my pleasant duty to answer these questions as far as they relate to the Order of the Eastern Star, which is founded upon a recognition of the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man and the Sisterhood of Woman. Its mission is to promote happiness. Its secrets are so devised that by their aid we may have additional means of recognizing the good and the true. Its heroines are selected from the best historical characters mentioned in the Book of Life. Its colors suggest the purest principles. Its emblems symbolize attributes referred to in the Scriptures. Where, in human history, will you find five characters among women, whose virtues and deeds make them as worthy to be combined into a star as "Adah," Ruth, Esther, Martha and "Electa"?

"Adah," daughter of Jephthah, loved truth with so great a love, that she willingly sacrificed to sustain her father's vow. Ruth, animated by loyalty and love, left home and friends, that she might comfort and provide for her bereaved mother-in-law. Esther risked her life to save her people from destruction. Martha's abiding faith in her Divine Master, enabled her to accept his assurance of eternal

life. "Electa" suffered martyrdom rather than deny her Lord.

These five characters are examples of virtues worthy of imitation. In practicing these virtues we adorn our earthly existence and better fit ourselves for eternal life. The impressive and inspiring narrations referred to are made more distinctive and delightful by colors. The Blue takes its tint from the cerulean sky, beneath which the mountain maid spent the happy days of her youth. The Yellow borrows its golden hue from the brilliant sun under which the daughter of Moab faithfully labored, and from the ripened grain which she industriously gathered. The White suggests the robe of regal dignity which adorned the heroic queen when she jeopardized her life to save her people from destruction. The Green suggests the sister's abiding faith in her Lord. The Red directs our thoughts to the beneficence and fortitude of a "Mother in Israel." United in one, they diffuse sentiments that may be accepted by the noblest, wisest and greatest of men. Our chain is fraternal, wreathed with flowers, and our duties are pleasant, inspired by love. Therefore we rejoice in the great reward promised by Him Whose Star we have seen in the East and Whom we "are come to worship."

Let us with our Chaplain now unite in prayer.

[Prayer, hymn, and march of regular Initiation. (See pages 81-82.)]

Patron. My Brother (*or,* Brothers), I would remind you that there are five degrees in this Order, conferred in its Initiation.

As each successive Star Point degree is mentioned, the respective Star Point Officer will rise.

The first degree is that of "Adah," the Daughter. The Sign of the degree is:—(*Adah gives Sign*). The Password is:—(*Adah gives Password and resumes seat*).

The second, is that of Ruth, the Widow. The Sign of the degree is:—(*Ruth gives Sign*). The Password is:—(*Ruth gives Password and resumes seat*).

The third, is that of Esther, the Wife. The Sign of the degree is:—(*Esther gives Sign*). The Password is:—(*Esther gives Password and resumes seat*).

The fourth, is that of Martha, the Sister. The Sign of the degree is:—(*Martha gives Sign*). The Password is:—(*Martha gives Password and resumes seat*).

The fifth, is that of "Electa," the Mother. The Sign of the degree is:—(*Electa gives Sign*). The Password is:—(*Electa gives Password and resumes seat*).

Should you desire to visit a Chapter where you are not acquainted, it will be necessary for you to prove your membership in the Order;

you will do so by undergoing an examination in which you will be required to give specific answers to certain test questions. These questions will be asked in the order the degrees have been conferred. That you may be familiar with the different features of such an examination, I will, with the assistance of the Conductress, now rehearse it. Carefully observe my questions and her answers, as her answers should be yours, were you undergoing the Examination.—(*See Esoteric Key, page* 1, *No.* 3.)

It is now necessary to give you an explanation of the Signet, which is always to be found in the East of the Chapter room. Upon it are inscribed the five pointed Star, the significant Colors, and the Emblems of the several degrees of the Order. Upon it will also be found the ————(*See Esoteric Key, page* 4, *No.* 4.)

My Brother (*or,* Brothers), you will now be conducted to the Secretary's desk, where you will sign the By-Laws of ——— Chapter, No. ———, thereby consummating your membership, becoming endowed with all the rights and benefits and subject to all the penalties.

Sister Conductress (*or,* and Associate), escort our Brother (*or,* Brothers) to the Secretary, for enrollment.

The candidate is (*or,* candidates are) conducted to the Secretary's desk, where he signs (*or,* they sign), the By-Laws. During this ceremony, appropriate

music may be rendered. The candidate is (*or*, candidates are) then returned to the foot of the dais, where the Patron will greet and welcome him (*or*, them) as a member (*or*, as members).

Cond. Worthy Patron, the By-Laws have been signed.

Patron. My Brother (*or*, Brothers), having consummated your membership in the Order of the Eastern Star by signing our By-Laws, I greet you and cordially and fraternally welcome you into our midst.

Patron. Sister Conductress (*or*, and Associate), cause the Brother (*or*, Brothers) to face the West.

When this order has been obeyed, the Patron will say:

Patron. Sisters and Brothers of ——— Chapter, No. ———, and visitors from other Chapters, it is with pleasure that I present to you our new member (*or*, members).* At your first opportunity, extend to him (*or*, them) a sisterly and a brotherly greeting.

The Chapter is seated.

Patron. Sister Conductress (*or*, and Associate), escort our new member (*or*, members) to a seat (*or*, to seats).

The Patron then returns the gavel to the Matron.

* May state name or names.

KEY TO ORDER IN INITIATION—MASTER MASON.

1. A. Cond. retires to ascertain if candidate is (*or*, candidates are) waiting.
2. A. Cond. returns and reports.
3. Secretary informs the Patron of candidate's (*or*, candidates') status.
4. A. Cond. retires to prepare and introduce candidate (*or*, candidates).
5. An alarm at the Preparation Room door.
6. Cond. attends to the alarm.
7. Cond. reports to the Patron.
8. A. Cond.—procession admitted, led by Marshal. Candidate (*or*, Candidates), taken directly to West and presented to A. Matron.
9. A. Matron receives him (*or*, them) and presents him (*or*, them) to Patron.
10. Patron receives and reviews purposes of O. E. S.
11. Candidate (*or*, Candidates) placed at Altar.
12. Patron, Matron and A. Matron advance to Altar.
13. Candidate assumes (*or*, Candidates assume) Covenant. Caused to arise.
14. Patron, Matron and A. Matron to stations.
15. Candidate (*or*, Candidates) escorted to East for Charge and Review.
16. Matron gives Charge and Review.
17. *Patron.* "I would remind you that there are five degrees"—"Examination."
18. *Patron.* "It is now necessary to give, etc." "Signet." (*See Esoteric Key, page* 4, *No.* 4.)
19. Patron sends candidate (*or*, candidates) to sign By-Laws.
20. Patron welcomes candidate (*or*, candidates), as member (*or*, as members).
21. Patron introduces him (*or*, them) to the Chapter.

Affiliation.

AFFILIATION.

The ceremony of affiliation may follow that of Initiation, or take place at any stated meeting of the Chapter, under the order of new business.

The duly elected affiliate is (*or,* affiliates are) conducted to the foot of the dais in the East, received and addressed by the Patron and by the Matron, escorted to the Secretary's desk to sign the Chapter By-Laws, returned to the East, welcomed, and introduced to the Chapter. The procedure is as follows:

Patron. Sister Conductress (*or,* and Associate), present the affiliate-elect (*or.* affiliates-elect).

The Cond. (and A. Cond., if more than one affiliate) presents the affiliate-elect (*or,* affiliates-elect) at the foot of the dais, facing the East, and says:

Cond. Worthy Patron, I have the honor to present the affiliate-elect (*or,* affiliates-elect).

Patron. My Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* Brother, *or,* Brothers, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), we are gratified by your presence, and trust our meeting has impressed you that it is, what it should be—a gathering imbued with the spirit of fraternity, which spirit we assume you are prepared to foster. I take pleasure in presenting you to our Worthy Matron.

Matron. My Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* Brother, *or,* Brothers, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), during your membership in the Order of the

Eastern Star, you have established and maintained such a standing in it, as commends you for adoption to the membership of this Chapter.

Therefore your application (*or,* applications) for affiliation has (*or,* have) been favorably received, and you have been duly elected to membership. May your uniting with us benefit you, and enable both you and us to accomplish more in the work in which we are engaged. In the name of ———————— Chapter, I bid you welcome.*

Patron. You will now be conducted to the Secretary's desk, where you will sign the By-Laws of this Chapter, thereby consummating your membership.

Patron. Sister Conductress (*or,* and Associate), escort our Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* Brother, *or,* Brothers, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers) to the Secretary's desk for enrollment. After she (*or,* he) has (*or,* they have) signed the By-Laws, again present her (*or,* him, *or,* them), for introduction to the Chapter.

Upon the return of the affiliate (*or,* affiliates), the Cond. will say:

Cond. Worthy Patron, the By-Laws have been signed.

Patron. My Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* Brother,

* The Matron will accompany her welcome with a cordial handclasp.

or, Brothers, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), having consummated your membership in our Chapter, by signing the By-Laws, I greet you and cordially welcome you into our midst.

Patron. Sister Conductress (*or,* and Associate), cause our new member (*or,* members) to face the West.

The Patron will then call up the Chapter and say:

Patron. Sisters and Brothers of ——— Chapter, No. ———, and visitors from other Chapters, it is with pleasure that I present to you Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* Brother, *or* Brothers) ——— (*or,* and Sister, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Sisters, *or,* and Brothers) ——— who has (*or,* have) united with us by affiliation.

At your first opportunity, extend to her (him, *or,* them), a sisterly and a brotherly greeting.

Sister Conductress (*or,* and Associate), escort our new member (*or,* members) to a seat (*or,* to seats).

The Chapter is seated.

The Floral Ceremony.

THE FLORAL CEREMONY.

Adapted from an arrangement by Alonzo J. Burton, Past Grand Lecturer.

The Floral Ceremony is not a degree and confers no degree. It is an instructive and inspiring review and lesson. The Bible should be open upon the Altar.

It may follow immediately after the Star Degrees, or may be given as a separate ceremony at a subsequent meeting. It may be embellished and elaborated by poetry, marches and music. The work of the Floral Ceremony may be delegated to a Special Floral Staff. (See pages 12 and 29.) The Conductress and candidate (*or,* candidates) for the Floral Ceremony, will stand at or near the East, at first facing it, later as most suitable. The Patron will say:

Patron. Sister Conductress (she responds), our Sister has (*or,* Sisters have) passed through the Star Degrees of our Order, where she has (*or,* they have) been informed of the illustrious virtues and deeds of renown of our heroines. What further have you to offer to inspire and direct her (*or,* them) in the great work in which we are engaged?

Cond. In an ancient Jewish ceremony, it was customary at a certain hour of the day, for the women of Jerusalem to repair to the Woman's Court at the Temple of Herod, to offer devotions and to return thanks to the Most High for divine privileges. In representation of those ancient ceremonies, I would suggest that the usual Officers assemble around the Altar, that we may show this Sister (*or,* these

Sisters) our earnestness and our devotion to the great principles of the Order.

The Officers rise and take flowers from the Altar. Music may be rendered or the following may be chanted:

Around our Altar's sacred shrine
May love's pure incense rise,
Bearing upon its mystic flame
Our music to the skies.

Matron. *Candidate or candidates* *Cond.*

Electa. *Adah.*

ALTAR

Martha. *Ruth.*

Esther.

A. Cond. *A. Matron.* *Chaplain.*

Cond. Sister Associate Conductress (*she responds*), our Sister has (*or,* Sisters have) pledged her (*or,* their) honor that she (*or,* they) will devote herself (*or,* themselves) to our cause. There is much of beauty and significance in the work of our Order. What floral emblems and sentiments have you to offer in illustration?

A. Cond. (*holds up bouquet*). These floral emblems of the Eastern Star are Nature's smiles wrought from her own hues and materials, and are monitors of truth and righteousness. They delight the eye, gratify the sense, and are eloquent teachers of God's love. We all love flowers and in the Ritual of our Order, they

assume an important part, suggesting through their forms, colors, fragrance and beauty, the womanly graces of the five heroines of the Eastern Star. I therefore suggest that our floral work be presented, that the representatives of those heroines may unfold to our Sister (*or,* Sisters) the significance of the flowers of our Order.

Cond. You have spoken well. Your suggestion will be adopted.

Sister Adah (*she responds*), what is your floral emblem and what is its lesson?

(*Music*)

Adah. I present this blue flower. (*Presents flower to candidate, or, candidates.*) It suggests the color of the starry expanse of the heavens, under which "Adah" spent the happy days of her youth. Blue is emblematic of truth, and reminds us of that excellent virtue which should find a constant dwelling place in the heart of each member.

Recite an appropriate verse* of poetry. Music; or chant the following:

Fairest of souls above
Are those who suffer here;
They gave the sacrifice of love
To prove their hearts sincere.

* Historical Heroines, page 124, or other poetry.

Cond. Sister Ruth (*she responds*), what is your token and what is your tribute?

(*Music*)

Ruth. I present this yellow flower. (*Presents flower.*) Its color reminds us of the Sheaf, an emblem of plenty. While a member of our Order, may your pathway be strewn with yellow jasmine, and when in the enjoyment of the comforts of health and abundance, may you never forget to be the dispenser of good and generous gifts, and the necessity of firm adherence to religious principles.

Recite an appropriate verse* of poetry. Music; or chant the following:

Our delight is with the law of the Lord,
And, in His law, we will exercise
Ourselves day and night.

Cond. Sister Esther (*she responds*), what is your gift and what is your greeting?

(*Music*)

Esther. I present this white flower. (*Presents flower.*) Its color is emblematic of purity. In the maintenance of pure and lofty principles, may you be willing even to hazard your life.

Recite an appropriate verse* of poetry. Music; or chant the following:

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* Historical Heroines, page {124 / 125} or other poetry.

Let us therefore come boldly unto
The Throne of Grace
That we may obtain mercy, and find
Grace in time of need.

Cond. Sister Martha (*she responds*), what is your offering and what is its significance?

(*Music*)

Martha. My offering is this green sprig. (*Presents sprig.*) Its color is emblematic of hope and immortality. So will the accomplishment of a life devoted to good, endure, and its fruition be eternal life.

Recite an appropriate verse* of poetry. Music; or chant the following:

And altogether blest are those who
Love the Lord;
The grave will kindly yield its guest to
His resistless word.

Cond. Sister Electa (*she responds*), what is your gift and what is your message?

(*Music*)

Electa. I present this red flower. (*Presents flower.*) Red represents the ardor and zeal which should actuate all who are united by our mystic tie. We are reminded that, without

* Historical Heroines, page 125, or other poetry.

charity, none can enter Heaven. May you, as well as every member of our beautiful Order, wherever dispersed, never be deficient in this important virtue.

Recite an appropriate verse* of poetry. Music; or chant the following:

Lovely upon the shore
Of Jordan's stream she stands,
Who gave her life for Christ, and bore,
His virtues in her hands.

Cond. Sister Associate Matron (*she responds*), Sisters Adah, Ruth, Esther, Martha and Electa have presented our traditional flowers, with instructive explanations. Will you now present your floral offering and thereby complete our bouquet.

(*Music*)

A. Matron. With pleasure. The Colors of this bouquet are consecrated to the five heroines of our Order and each Color has an associated significance. (*Takes blue flower from candidate and unites it with her bouquet.*) The Blue takes its tint from the cerulean sky, beneath which the mountain maid spent the happy days of her youth. The Yellow (*takes yellow flower, etc.*) borrows its golden hue from the brilliant sun under which the daughter of

* Historical Heroines, page 125, or other poetry.

Moab faithfully labored and from the ripened grain which she industriously gathered. The White (*takes white flower, etc.*) suggests the robe of regal dignity which adorned the heroic queen when she jeopardized her life to save her people from destruction. The Green (*takes green sprig, etc.*) suggests the sister's abiding faith in Jesus. The Red (*takes red flower, etc.*) directs our thoughts to the beneficence and fortitude of a "Mother in Israel." United in one (*fastens bouquet securely, and hands to candidate, or candidates*), they diffuse sentiments that may be accepted by the purest and noblest of women.

Recite an appropriate verse* of poetry.

(*Music*)

Matron (*to candidate*). My Sister (*or,* Sisters), may the lessons taught in our Floral Ceremony make a deep and lasting impression upon you. Anciently, the initiate was subjected to real and severe trials. A long and toilsome journey was taken through narrow and rugged paths. The crash of thunder, the roar of falling waters, astounded and terrified her; the cries of wild beasts added to her alarm; grim figures of monsters disputed her way, and she was made to prove her firmness by leaping from a height into what seemed to be a fiery

* Historical Heroines, page 126, or other poetry.

pit. Many years ago, in Europe, the ancient rites were revived, with modified forms. At a particular stage of the initiation, the candidate threw a rose into the flame, as a pledge of her willingness to sacrifice to duty, her pleasures and superfluities. She was then crowned with a wreath of evergreen as a reward of merit and a symbol of proficiency. The Order of the Eastern Star is typical of those organizations of old, and yet, with our mild forms, we feel that we have accomplished more than they, with their ceremonial, which was as grand and sublime as the human mind could devise. The progress of humanity is the work of Omnipotence. It began thousands of years ago, and will continue for ages to come. By the accumulation of many small efforts, great results have been accomplished and their enduring records are written on the face of the earth, and in the history of nations. We can do much if each be content to do her share, and if our united efforts are directed by wise counsels to a common purpose. So it is, that organizations become great powers. This Order was founded that, through unity of effort, we might accomplish the greatest good.

In this spirit, we have assembled, and around this Altar, have presented you with our traditional flowers.

(*Music*)

Chapter stands. The Officers participating will form a circle around the Altar and stand with bowed heads. The Chaplain, at the Altar, will offer the following or other prayer:

PRAYER.

Chaplain. Our Father, who art in Heaven, we thank Thee for Thy loving kindness. Help us to practice in our homes and in the world the principles which we profess in the Chapter. Let Faith, Hope and Charity rule and guide our conduct and conversation. Help us to do, with sincerity and devotion, the works of truth and of justice. Enable us, in our labors and practices, to conform to our professions, and by our example, to incite and encourage others to nobler things than we ourselves can attain. Strengthen us in our good resolutions, that we may prove faithful members; and, at last, in the full measure of our years, receive us into that land above, where we all hope to be forever with our Lord. Amen.

Chant: My God, my Father,
While I stray, ***
Thy will be done.

The Chapter is seated.

HISTORICAL HEROINES,

By Albert H. Brundage, M. D.,
Grand Lecturer, 1912.

It will be observed that the verses for the Star Points embrace history, hope and plan. The verse for the Associate Matron furnishes summary and sequel, and enjoins an earnest imitation of the respective virtues.

"Adah"

"Alas, my daughter!" wrung from heart,
Ere then, exulting, joyful,
Reveals dire woe, bids hopes depart,
Tells tidings: promise fateful—
My father's vow unto the Lord,
Shall not for me be broken,
Fore'er I'll teach: break not thy word,
'Tis honor's brightest token.

Refrain

Though earth's rewards I surely miss,
All selfish ties I sever.
My token's this—and this—and this—
In life, in death, forever. [3 mtns.]

Ruth

Her whom I love, I'll not forsake,
For her I'll work and suffer.
Her people, home and God I take,
My own, through life's endeavor.
If "Who is this?" some one shall ask,
As in strange field I labor,
My earnest life and loving task,
Shall win at least God's favor.

(Refrain)

Esther

My people wronged, in awful woe,
Defamed, condemned to die.
To save them, I will courage show,
Ruler's wrath and law defy.
If he pardon, offer scepter,
Ask, "Queen Esther, what wilt thou?"
Grant salvation—perfect rapture
For my people, weeping now.

(Refrain)

Martha

A sister's love, a woman's tears,
Unbounded confidence,
Adorn the tale the Master hears,
When Martha gains His presence.
To her, he says, "I am the life,"
"He who believes, e'er lives."
"Believest thou this?" evokes no strife,
Her faith His test survives.

(Refrain)

"Electa"

True friend to poor and pilgrim, long,
In Christ, devout believer.
'Midst test and persecution, wrong,
Rich faith and love sustained her.
Her love and pity, others teach:
To e'er love one another;
Forgive, forget, God's grace beseech,
And aid a needy brother.

(Refrain)

(Associate Matron)

"Adah" upheld vow and truth;
Nobly sacrificed in youth.
Ruth was blessed for loving care,
Esther won, by courage rare.
Martha's faith gave Laz'rus life,
"Electa" loved with pity rife.
All of these, in woman's crown,
Shine like stars, the ages down.
Let us then, all, emulate,
Reap we joy, or martyr's fate.
Time, to merit, honor gives;
Death insures worth ever lives.

(Omit Refrain)

Funeral
or
Burial Service.

FUNERAL OR BURIAL SERVICE.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS.

1. The Eastern Star Funeral or Burial Service shall be conducted over the remains of a Sister or a Brother of the Order only upon the request of the deceased or of the family. In the latter case, the Matron or Patron of the Chapter, or in their absence or disability the next highest Officer who can readily be reached, must be notified in time for suitable arrangements to be made.

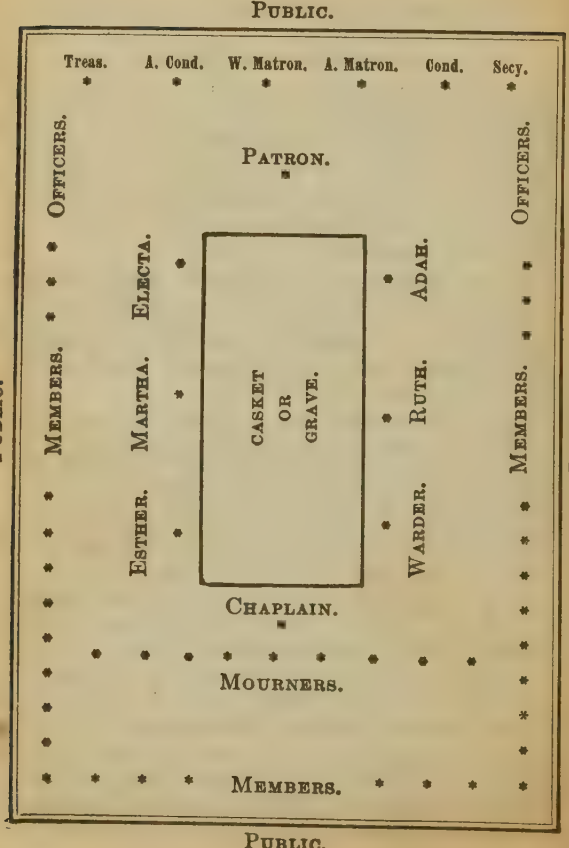
2. The Matron, or her substitute, having received notice of the death of a Sister (*or*, Brother) issues an order to the Secretary to notify the Chapter members. In the absence or disability of the Matron, the Associate Matron, the Patron or the Secretary, in the foregoing order, will act.

3. If the deceased was a Grand or Past Grand Officer, the Matron should invite the Officers of the Grand Chapter to be present, and the Patron may arrange, with a present or Past Grand Officer, to conduct the Service. As a rule it shall be deemed the prerogative of the Patron of the Chapter to conduct the service over the remains of a member of his Chapter, when such service is to take place.

4. A floral Star should be used in the Service; the points furnished with appropriately colored flowers. Official jewels should be draped.

5. The Service may be performed in a Church, at the house of the deceased, or at the grave, with proper change of language when necessary.

6. The members will assemble at the Chapter room and go to the house of the deceased, or may go directly to the place of Service, as is most convenient. Clothing of subdued shades, or white, should be worn.


PUBLIC.
Treas.
A. Cond.
W. Matron.
A. Matron.
Cond.
Secy.
OFFICERS.
PATRON.
OFFICERS.
MEMBERS.
MARTHA.
ELECTA.
CASKET OR GRAVE.
ADAH.
RUTH.
ESTHER.
WARDER.
MEMBERS.
PUBLIC.
PUBLIC.
CHAPLAIN.
MOURNERS.
MEMBERS.
PUBLIC.

If service is indoors, participants should remove hats.

7. The members of the Chapter will form an oblong about the casket or grave, as shown in the accompanying diagram. When the diagrammatic arrangement cannot be closely carried out, it should be followed as nearly as possible.

The arrangements being completed, the acting Patron will begin the services by saying:

Patron. Friends, we are now assembled around the casket which contains the mortal remains of our Sister (*or,* Brother), and are about to perform our most solemn rites of love and respect over her (*or,* him). A few reflections, that should be instructive and impressive, may properly be offered at this time.

It has been said that "It is better to go to the house of mourning than to the house of feasting." Verily, the house of mourning may provide a feast of rejoicing at victory over death and the grave. We are told that in the world of matter all bodies are subject to the laws of mutual attraction and repulsion. The stars that fill the vault of heaven, the drops that make the ocean, the atoms that form the universe, are all controlled by a simple but mysterious power that renders the perfect isolation of even a grain of sand impossible. No human being passes away into death without the sympathy of some one, or the absence being noted sooner or later by some human being. We cannot, if

we would, live or die wholly unto ourselves. An individual may fall unseen, unwept, unhonored and unsung, but like a pebble that falls into the great ocean, a ripple is created which will reach out farther and farther into the great beyond.

Matron. Our Heavenly Father hath again reminded us of the brevity and uncertainty of human life, and hath warned us also to be ready for that day which comes at last unto all, when the body returns to dust, and the spirit unto Him who gave it. Although our heads are bowed down and our hearts are heavy because the reaper, Death, has taken our Sister (*or,* Brother), and thus broken our fraternal circle, nevertheless we rejoice at the glorious transition and the victory which she (*or,* he) has achieved. The lesson of the present is full of deep and significant meanings. Our beloved Sister (*or,* Brother) has fallen in life's battle, acknowledged the supremacy of death, yielded to a victor whom none can resist, and entered upon the sleep that knows no waking. Her (*or,* his) star is set on this world, and she (*or,* he) has passed into the light that is beyond the valley of the shadow of death. With her (*or,* him) we have traveled the pilgrimage of life; with her (*or,* him) we have sympathized in its vicissitudes and trials. She (*or,* he) is now removed beyond the reach of human sympathy, praise or censure. That we loved her

(*or,* him) our presence here evinces. As she (*or,* he) in her (*or,* his) life exemplified the virtues of those beloved servants of God—the lovely heroines of our Order—so surely shall she (*or,* he) be rewarded. The lessons of her (*or,* his) exemplary life and many virtues linger in our remembrance, and their shining luster is reflected beyond the portals of the tomb. Having fought a good fight and kept the faith, she (*or,* he) now enters into the joys of her (*or,* his) Lord.

Sisters, Brothers, and friends, let us improve the remaining brief period of life, and be prepared to obey our Heavenly Father's call from our labors on earth, to everlasting happiness in the world to come.

Patron. Let us pray.

The Chaplain, or a person appointed for the purpose, will offer the following, or other appropriate prayer:

PRAYER.

O merciful and loving Father, Thou hast decreed that our earthly life shall be but temporary, and that the sorrows and trials we endure here, shall but the better fit us for our glorious and eternal home above. We thank Thee for the deep and abiding consciousness, which Thou hast implanted in us, that Thou art a living, omnipotent and omniscient God, and that another and better life awaits us be-

yond the grave. Pity our weaknesses, forgive our errors and grant that the evil consequences of our sins shall not be far reaching nor lasting. Enable us to endure the trials of life patiently and uncomplainingly, and be ever grateful for the hope of a blissful reward to come. Help us earnestly to labor, and to exemplify, in our daily lives, the great principles and purposes of our Order: Charity, Fraternity and Love. May these virtues animate our actions, purify our thoughts and render us increasingly pleasing and acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord our God. Amen.

All respond. Amen.

After the Prayer, the members of the Order will join in singing some appropriate hymn.

At the conclusion of the singing, the Patron takes from the casket, or places on or near the casket where the Officers may conveniently reach it, a Floral Star which shall be prepared for the occasion. The Patron then proceeds:

Patron. This floral emblem of the Eastern Star, wrought in Nature's hues and from her richest and sweetest material, instructs us with an eloquence more powerful than words. Flowers brighten the gloomy surroundings of death. Laid on the grave, they show that the loved one is not forgotten. Flowers are constant reminders of the Creator and of our hope of a future life. In our gardens, they bud, bloom, flourish for a time, then fade, wither and de-

cay; the blossom and stalk are dead, but the germinal life, the true life still lives, and planted in the Spring-time garden, it bursts forth into new life and glory. So we, born into this world, flourish for a season, then like the flowers, fade, wither and decay. Apparently we pass away. But the true life, the soul within us, has merely been translated to the celestial garden, ready for the Spring-time awakening of the resurrection morn, there to bloom in supernal glory before Him who is the Creator and Conserver of all life and beauty, the Lord God Almighty.

In the ceremonies of our Order, flowers bear an important part. Let them adorn the casket and bloom on the grave. They are the beautiful, silent hymns in which we sing of our Creator's care over us and love for us. They suggest, through their matchless forms, colors and fragrance, the admirable qualities possessed by the five heroines of the Eastern Star, and the impressive lessons taught by their lives. It is proper, therefore, that in this, our most solemn ceremonial, we should introduce our traditional flowers. I now call upon the representatives of those heroines to remind us of their appropriate lessons.

Sister Adah, draw from these mute monitors of truth that portion of the Floral Star which suggests your particular duty and impart to us its significance (*handing her the*

Star, or indicating it as it lies upon or near the casket).

Adah. My duty is to point hopefully to the blue expanse above where our dear departed are safe at home. (*Draws the Blue flower from the Floral Star, and holding it up, returns the Star to the Patron, or retires from it a short distance, saying:*) This Blue flower symbolizes Truth and Love. Some believe that the souls of our departed friends return at times, when yearning is strong within them, and bring us consolation from heavenly sources; others, that our Divine Father makes them His messengers to save us from despair in those moments when our hearts sink within us. In the belief that true love is undying, I deposit this memento of our love upon the casket which contains the remains of our departed Sister (*or,* Brother). (*Drops the flower upon the casket.*)

Patron. Sister Ruth, select that portion of the Floral Star which suggests *your* particular duty, and impart to us *its* significance. (*Handing her the Star, or indicating it as it lies upon or near the casket.*)

Ruth. My duty is to point to the golden tints of sunset, emblematic of the glories in the passing of those who sweetly sleep in the Lord. (*Draws the Yellow flower from the Floral Star and holding it up, returns the Star to the Patron, or retires from it a short distance, saying:*)

This Yellow flower, symbolizing Service and Reward, teaches the lesson of Sowing for golden Reaping. We believe that the deeds of Kindness and Charity performed on earth, lay up treasures in Heaven. Therefore, we lay our loved ones in the grave, confident of their reward by our Heavenly Father on High. In the belief that the benefits which result from worthy service reap their full fruitage beyond the grave, I deposit this memento of our affection upon the casket of our departed Sister (*or,* Brother). (*Drops flower upon the casket.*)

Patron. Sister Esther, select that portion of the Floral Star which suggests *your* particular duty and impart to us *its* significance. (*Handing her the Star, or indicating it as it lies upon or near the casket.*)

Esther. My duty is to point to the white robes promised the faithful children of God, the spotless inheritance reserved for the pure in heart. (*Draws the White flower from the Floral Star, and, holding is up, returns the Star to the Patron, or retires from it a short distance, saying:*) This White flower symbolizes Purity. A promise of ineffable consolation was once made, amidst the lilies on the mountain-side, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God!" Believing this, the humble may look up—the lowly may hope, for the Unerring Eye will de-

tect them amidst the flowers of His field, and they shall not fail to realize His promise: "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom!" In the belief that the word of God will be verified, I deposit this emblem of purity and of our faith upon the casket. (*Drops the flower upon the casket.*)

Patron. Sister Martha, select that portion of the Floral Star which suggests *your* duty and impart to us *its* significance. (*Handing her the Star, or indicating it as it lies upon or near the casket.*)

Martha. My duty is to point to the verdure of God's evergreen trees as a symbol of our ever-living faith in His enduring promises. "Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life and may enter in through the gates into the city." (*Draws the Green sprig from the Floral Star, and, holding it up returns the Star to the Patron or retires from it a short distance, saying:*) This Evergreen, symbolizing Immortality, teaches the lesson of abiding Faith. They whose souls have been touched with celestial fire, can know no change. Coldness may wound them, but they cannot be alienated. Sorrow only increases their devotion to Him who has won their hearts by His divine favor. As from the grave, oft-times, the sweetest flowers spring, so from the anguish of death are born the richest proofs

of abiding faith. As an emblem of our faith in a blessed immortality, I deposit this emblem of undying hope upon the casket. (*Drops the Sprig upon the casket.*)

Patron. Sister Electa, select that portion of the Star which suggests *your* particular duty and impart to us *its* significance. (*Handing her the Star, or indicating it as it lies upon or near the casket.*)

Electa. My duty is to point to the rosy tints of a brilliant sunrise, as promising a glorious resurrection to those who die in the Lord. (*Draws the Red flower from the Floral Star, and, holding it up, returns the Star to the Patron, or retires from it a short distance, saying:*) This Red flower, symbolizing Fervency and Strength, teaches the lesson of life everlasting. "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" "In the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength." "The hour is coming (* * * *) when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live." "And they shall see His Face and His Name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light; and they shall reign forever and ever."

In this spirit I deposit this memento of our

affection, with the earthly remains of our beloved Sister (*or,* Brother). (*Drops the flower upon the casket.*)

The Matron steps forward, and says:

Matron. It is natural to desire that flowers shall bloom on the graves of those we love. Because of His love for us, our Heavenly Father has created flowers to delight and comfort us. As we strew them over the body (*or,* place them on the grave) of our departed Sister (*or,* Brother) (*strewing or placing flowers*) they remind us of immortality—that earthly death is but the vestibule of heavenly life. Let us cherish flowers not only because they gratify us, but also because they are earthly reflections of God's love and glory. Let us look toward Heaven and, beholding the stars which illumine the heavenly way, adore Him whose majesty and power they reveal.

The Matron takes from her bosom a pure, white rose, and, holding it up, says:

This white rose, the queen of flowers, the perfection of beauty and fragrance, is symbolic of our belief that there is a purer and better life beyond the grave. The pall may spread its velvet folds and the sable plumes droop in stately sorrow over the dead; but a single white rose, gracefully nodding amid its verdant foliage, speaks of our reliance on the Divine promise that we shall be like a watered garden, when

the bodies of those who sleep in the Lord shall come forth from the grave, radiant in the transfiguration of evangelic luster. Lord of all power and might! all Thy works do praise Thee. We give thanks unto Thee for Thy great love, and do commend the spirit of our departed Sister (*or,* Brother) to Thy keeping that in the final judgment she (*or,* he) may stand before Thee in glory.

Presses the flower to her lips, and drops it upon the casket, saying:

Until then, dear Sister (*or,* Brother), rest thou in peace! *

Patron. How instructive are these lessons! Love undying and unending, animating hearts that are pure and sincere, will exhibit the unfading beauty of which the Holy Spirit has spoken. The loss of this Sister (*or,* Brother) reminds us of our own approaching destiny. Secure in our faith and trust, how happy, in the hour of dissolving nature, will be the inspiring influence of that song of triumph—

"O death, where is thy sting?
O grave, where is thy victory?"

"O still, white face of perfect peace,
Untouched by passion, freed from pain,
He, who ordained that work should cease,
Took to Himself the ripened grain.

* Others may at this time deposit a flower upon the casket.

Of human care you left no trace,
No lightest trace of grief or pain,
On earth an empty form and face—
In Heaven stands the ripened grain."

Patron. The duty we owe to the dead is performed. It remains that we who are living should so live, and by our actions so attend the coming of the day of fate, that we may be neither surprised beyond recovery, nor leave our duties unfulfilled, nor our sins uncancelled, nor God unappeased; but that when our bodies, in their turn, descend to their graves, our souls may ascend to the regions of eternal light. Whatever faith is to befall us in this world, let the motto of our lives be: For the past, Charity; for the present, Hope; and for the future, Faith.

Safe and honored, my departed Sister (*or,* Brother), be thy last resting-place! Bright and glorious be thy rising from it! Abundant and full of delightful perfume be the wild flowers that upon thy grave shall flourish. Over thy resting-place may the earliest buds of spring unfold their beauties, and there may the sweetness of the summer's last rose linger longest. Though the cold blasts of autumn may lay them in the dust, and for a time destroy the loveliness of their existence, yet the destruction is not final, and in the Spring-time they shall surely bloom again. So, in the bright morning of the world's resurrection, thy mortal frame,

now laid in the dust by the chilling blast of Death, shall spring again into newness of life, and expand in immortal beauty, in realms beyond the skies. Until then, dear Sister (*or,* Brother), until then, farewell!

"Thy day has come, not gone;
Thy sun has risen, not set;
Thy life is now beyond
The reach of death or change;
Not ended—but begun.
Oh, noble soul! Oh, gentle heart!
Hail, and for a time farewell!"

The Chaplain, or a person appointed for the purpose, will offer the following or other appropriate prayer:

PRAYER.

Almighty and merciful God, infinite in wisdom and goodness, extend to us the riches of Thy everlasting favor, make us grateful for the benefits we enjoy, and crown us with immortal life and joy. Thou hast decreed that we shall all die and turn to dust. Thou hast also decreed that we shall rise from death to life everlasting. In that faith may we live, ever believing that when our earthly habitation crumbles, we shall be welcomed to Thy glorious mansion on high, to that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. We beseech Thee to enable these mourning friends to realize that

the ties of affection, are not broken by death, and that the family in heaven and on earth are as one. Forgive our transgressions, strengthen us to perform our duties, comfort us in our sorrows, and take us at last unto Thyself. Amen.

Response by the members:

Amen and Amen.

Closing hymn, after which the following or other benediction may be pronounced by the Chaplain or other person appointed for that purpose:

BENEDICTION.

"Now unto Him who is able to" enrich your lives by integrity, loyalty, courage, fortitude and abiding faith, "and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen."

Draping the Altar.

DRAPING THE ALTAR.

The Altar is to be draped thirty days for a Chapter member; sixty days for a Grand Chapter Officer. The Matron will announce for whom the Altar is about to be draped, stating the official position of such, if any.

Matron. The Officers will retire and prepare for the ceremony of Draping the Altar.

The Marshal, Chaplain, Conductress, Associate Conductress and the Star Points will retire, and prepare for Draping the Altar. Returning (the Matron calls up the Chapter), they will enter the Chapter Room by the Chapter-entrance door and promptly form three lines with the Marshal in advance in front of the middle line. The three lines will consist of the following:

Marshal

A. Cond. Chaplain Cond.

Electa... ALTAR-CLOTH, OPEN ..Adah
Martha.. ..Esther

Ruth

The Star Points will carry the open Altar cloth by its four corners. Ruth will carry a handful of wheat or barley tied with ribbon. As the procession advances towards the Altar, the Star Points, Choir or Organist will softly sing "Asleep in Jesus" or render any other appropriate music until the recital by the Chaplain.

The procession will pass to the West and then eastward. Upon arriving at the Altar, the Marshal will pass to his station; at the same point, the Cond. and the A. Cond. will turn and each take position in front of her respective station; the Chaplain will take up the Bible and pass northward and westward

and stand near the place usually occupied by Esther's chair; therefore in the procession beside Ruth, who will remain at that place until her turn to recite. The Star Points will pass on to the Altar and slowly drop the Altar-cloth over it, then remain standing at its four corners and facing the East. The Chaplain will then proceed to the Altar and place the Bible upon it, after which he (*or,* she) will recite the following and step back about two paces:

Chaplain. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." "Why art thou cast down, O my soul, and why art thou disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall yet praise Him, who is the health of my countenance and my God."

Ruth then advances to the Altar, places the wheat or barley alongside of the Bible and recites as below; she then takes position behind the Chaplain.

Ruth. "As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more."

Appropriate music may be rendered. Then the A. Cond. and the Cond. recite from their positions. They are followed by the A. Matron and the Patron, who will step down to the floor in front of their stations, just before reciting. The Matron steps down, and while reciting, proceeds to the Altar. When finishing, she may place white flowers upon the Altar.

A. Cond. "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the Word of our God shall stand forever."

Cond. "Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and He delivered them out of their distresses." "He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death."

A. Matron. "From the end of the earth will I cry unto Thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I." "The rock of my strength and my refuge, is in God."

Patron. "Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded," saith the Lord; "I am the Good Shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine."

Matron. "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want." "Yea! though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me." "For with Thee is the fountain of life: in Thy light shall we see light. Continue Thy loving-kindness unto them that know Thee; and Thy righteousness to the upright in heart." "For this God is our God for ever and ever: He will be our guide even unto death."

Appropriate music may be rendered. All Officers resume their stations. The Chapter is seated.

Memorial Service.

MEMORIAL SERVICE.

Designed and compiled by Albert H. Brundage.

[If the Altar has not previously been draped for the deceased member, or for all named in the Memorial Service, then the ceremony of Draping the Altar for such, may precede, or (preferably) follow, the Memorial Service. (See Draping the Altar.)]

The Officers at their usual stations. The Matron gives with gavel*; then says:

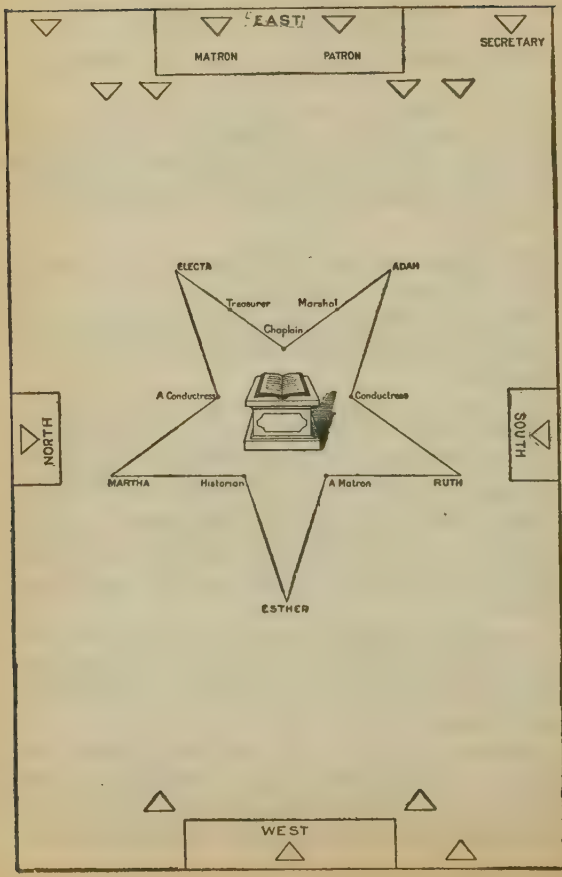
Matron. Officers (*or,* and members) will proceed to outline our emblematic Star. (See diagram.)

The proper Officers and if necessary additional members, will outline the Star, so facing and so joining hands as to form as perfect a Star as possible. The Chaplain and others who indicate the innermost angles of the Star will stand well in towards the Altar, and the Star outline may be indicated on the floor by tape, ribbon or cord fastened to it, or otherwise, if necessary. The Star having been formed, the Matron will say to the Patron:

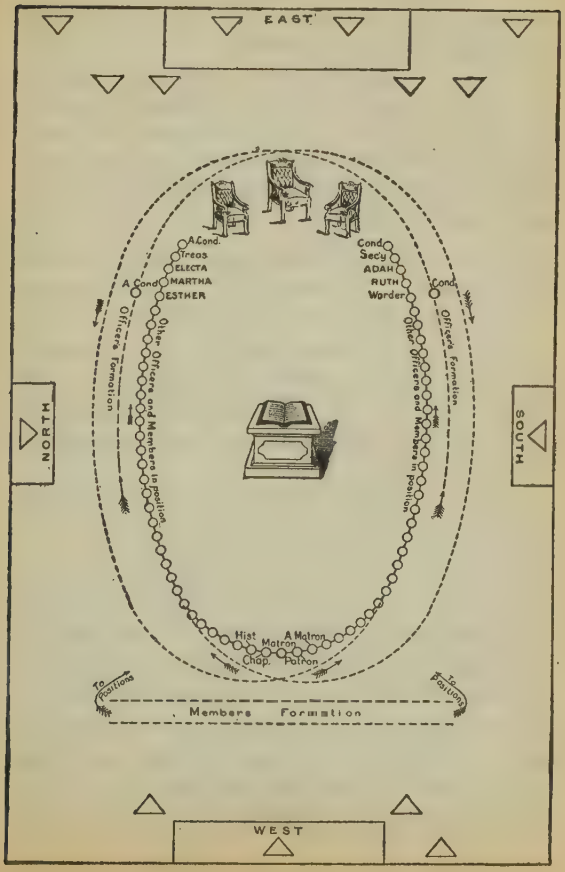
Matron. Worthy Patron, we ever cherish the principles of our Order. For them our emblem stands, and our members well outline and represent it.

Patron. Yes! Worthy Matron, therein we rejoice; but the great reaper—Death, has been in our midst and we mourn the break in our fraternal circle [*or,* (*or,* and) our Grand Chap-

MEMORIAL SERVICE
STAR FORMATION



MEMORIAL SERVICE
BROKEN-CHAIN FORMATION



ter circle]—our Chapter chain [*or,* (*or,*—and) —our Grand Chapter chain].

Matron. We will pay tribute to the Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* Brother, *or,* Brothers, *or,* Sister and Brother, etc.),—beloved link (*or,* links) we have lost from our Chapter [*or,* (*or,* and) Grand Chapter] chain (*or,* chains) since our last Memorial Service.

Matron. Sister Secretary, read the name, title and date of death of the Sister (*or,* Brother, etc., *or,* of each of these).

As soon as the Matron has made her request to the Sec'y, those who formed the Star outline, will take their seats. The Sec'y reads the name (*or,* names) with any comments that may be deemed advisable. Any suitable statement or recitation may then be given.

Matron. Officers and members will proceed to form the Memorial broken-chain, members assembling in the West. (See diagram.)

The Cond. and A. Cond. will promptly take positions as leaders of lines on the North and South, facing the East. Other Officers will take positions behind them as indicated in the diagram. The Marshal will superintend the formations and marching. When ready, the two lines will march as indicated in the diagram, interlacing or alternating as they cross in the East and in the West. The Matron, Patron and A. Matron will stand on the floor in front of their respective stations. As the end of the A. Cond. line passes the Chaplain, and then the Matron, those Officers will in respective order join it. The

Patron will join in the end of the Cond's. line as it passes him. When these lines reach the West, these Officers will assume the positions indicated for them in the diagram; there they will be joined by the A. Matron and the Historian who had remained in front of their respective stations. When the Officers are in position, the Marshal will cause the members who had assembled in the West to pass in two files to complete the lines of the Cond. and A. Cond., so as to unite with the Officers standing in the West. If there are more members than can be thus placed, a second chain may be formed outside the first one, but connecting as if a loop. The Marshal will suitably take position in the line at the right of the A. Matron. Before so doing, he (*or*, she) should place (if not previously placed) a chair or chairs between the Cond., the A. Cond. and the dais, facing the West. Such placing of chair or chairs (memorial), figuratively completes the chain, indicating the links (members) lost by death and the consequent vacant chairs. The diagram illustrates indication of a loss of three links (members). In the placing of one or more chairs (according to the number of deaths), the appearance of figuratively completing the chain, must be maintained. The "memorial chair" (*or*, chairs) may very properly be draped. It may be festooned or otherwise decorated with flowers or ribbons. Flowers may previously or formally be banked about it as well as placed on the seat or elsewhere on it. Such receptacles as a vase or vases, fancy basket or box, or a flower frame may advantageously be used. Ribbons are very appropriate when the deceased was a "Star Point"; or other emblem or insignia may represent, in flowers or other material, previous official position, viz., by baton, keys, scroll, or, etc. The Matron and "Star Points" are to place upon the chair or chairs their floral tributes at the conclusion of their respective recitals. For any special reason, other Officers may

do likewise and other members may place such tributes as they pass the "vacant chair" (*or*, chairs) in the retiring march, or otherwise, if arranged. All Officers will recite from their positions and remain there until the lines retire, except as otherwise provided herein. At the close of her recitation, each "Star Point" will place the characteristic color of her "point" upon the chair (*or*, chairs). When it is her turn to recite, the Matron, after reciting, will be escorted by the Patron, to a position near the chairs, to place, on each, her floral tribute, a bouquet of the five colors. He then returns with her to their stations on the dais. The A. Matron and the Historian return to their respective stations as the Chaplain advances to the Altar; she (*or*, he) there gives her (*or*, his) second recital, at the conclusion of which, the Marshal superintends the retiring march of the lines. In this, the lines continue eastward and alternating or interlacing at the dais, pass westward, on opposite sides of the room, to alternate or interlace in the West before turning northward to seats. The Matron then seats the Chapter. If desired, suitable music may be interspersed throughout the service. A list of suggested songs is given at the end of this chapter.

When conservation of time is imperative, the marches, or the placing of "vacant chairs" (either or both), may be omitted. When no "vacant chair" is placed, the floral tributes should be laid at or (*or*, and) upon the Altar. The "formed broken-chain," and its work, will be unchanged except that the broken ends of the chain will be at the Altar and that the chain may be composed of Officers only, if occasion requires. When Officers alone participate, the Matron should omit reference to members in directing the broken-chain formation.

When the Memorial broken-chain has been formed, the following order will be observed:

MUSIC OR CHANT.

Chaplain.

"Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling-place in all generations." "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." "For the living know that they shall die."

PATRON.

There is a reaper whose name is Death,
And with his sickle keen,
He reaps the bearded grain at a breath,
And the flowers that grow between."

HISTORIAN.

"Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to wither at the North wind's breath,
And stars to set; but all—
Thou hast all seasons for thine own, O death!"

ASSOCIATE MATRON.

"There is no flock, however watched and tended,
But one dead lamb is there!
There is no fireside, howso'er defended,
But has one vacant chair."

ASSOCIATE CONDUCTRESS.

"One by one our Heavenly Father
Gently lets the seasons fall,
One by one the storm and sunshine
Cast their shadows over all."

CONDUCTRESS.

"One by one we pass the portals,
In the onward march of life,
One by one through faith we conquer,
In the never ending strife."

TREASURER.

"One by one we miss the handclasps
That so warm a welcome gave,
One by one the voice is silenced
In the stillness of the grave."

SECRETARY.

"One by one we miss the faces
Of the 'loved ones to us blest,'
One by one 'neath names are written
'Ceased from labor, home, at rest.'"

ELECTA.

"There is no death! The stars go down
To rise upon some fairer shore;
And bright in Heaven's jeweled crown
They shine forever more."

(*Then places flowers on chair or chairs silently, or saying: My tribute is the red rose.*)

ADAH.

"There is no death! The leaves may fall,
And flowers may fade and pass away;
They only wait, through wintry hours,
The coming of the May."

(*Then places flowers on chair or chairs silently, or saying: My tribute is the* ***blue violet.***)

MARTHA.

"There is no death! An angel form
Walks o'er the earth with silent tread;
He bears our best loved 'ones' away.
And we then call them 'dead.'"

(*Then places flowers on chair or chairs silently, or saying: My tribute is the evergreen.*)

RUTH.

"He leaves our hearts all desolate,
He plucks our fairest, sweetest flowers;
Transplanted into bliss, they now
Adorn immortal bowers."

(*Then places flowers on chair or chairs silently, or saying: My tribute is the yellow jasmine.*)

ESTHER.

"And ever near us though unseen,
The dear immortal spirits tread;
For all the boundless universe
Is life—there are no dead."

(*Then places flowers on chair or chairs silently, or saying: My tribute is the white lily.*)

WARDER.*

"Since God, in His Love
For His children, denies
A glimpse of the end
To humanity's eyes,
Let each bravely answer
Life's manifest call,
And rely on the Lord
Who loveth us all."

* Or other Officer, occupying the same position in the line if more convenient.

MATRON.

"From the voiceless lips of the unreplying dead there comes no word. But in the night of death, Hope sees a Star, and listening Love can hear the rustling of a wing."

"Weep not that their toils are over;
Weep not that their race is run;
God grant we may rest as calmly
When our work, like theirs, is done:
Till then we would yield with gladness
Our treasures to Him to keep,
And rejoice in the sweet assurance—"
He giveth His loved ones sleep.

CHAPLAIN.

"Blessed be he of the Lord, who hath not left off his kindness to the living and to the dead."

"A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth."

"Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it."

"He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces."

"Trust ye in the Lord forever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength."

"Wherefore comfort one another with these words"—

"We have seen His Star in the East and are come to worship Him."

MUSIC, CHANT OR SONG.

Retiring March*. Chapter Seated.

Suggested songs: Lead, Kindly Light; Nearer My God to Thee; Abide With Me; Shall We Meet; The Lost Chord; When the Lights Are Low; He Leadeth Me; One Sweetly Solemn Thought; Only Waiting; Star of the East; God is Love; Sweet By and By; God Be With You; Rock of Ages; Face to Face; Crossing the Bar; Jerusalem; etc. [Recitation: "Heimgang"; "After Death."]

* Others, not members, may at this time deposit a flower when passing the chair (or, chairs,—Altar).

Administrative Degree.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE DEGREE.

The Administrative Degree is honorary only, and is designed to be the official complement for those who have been installed as Matron or as Patron of a regularly constituted Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star in this State.

It should be conferred as soon as possible after installation. Being strictly of an official grade, it is intended to inspire, to instruct, and to draw into closer bonds of fraternity those who have just assumed, or have previously occupied, one or the other of these high offices.

The Administrative Degree is conferred upon those Matrons and those Patrons, present or "Past," of Eastern Star Chapters, in this State, who comply with the other requirements of the Grand Chapter relating to petitioners for this degree. Petitions to receive the degree are to be addressed to the Assistant Grand Lecturer of the respective Eastern Star District in which the petitioner's Chapter is situated.

The degree is conferred by a body called the Administrative Council (of the respective District, of the Order of the Eastern Star, in which it is held). An Administrative Council of a District consists of the Assistant Grand Lecturer of the District in which it is held, and of not less than one other Master Mason, who is a Past Patron, and of five Past Matrons; these last six shall be such Officers of an Eastern Star Chapter or Chapters, in this State, and preferably of that Eastern Star District. All of these, except the Assistant Grand Lecturer, who, in the event of his disability, may be represented by a Past Patron acting as his deputy, must be present, in order to constitute and to open an Administrative Council.

The Grand Lecturer is ex-officio a member of each and every Administrative Council, and is supreme in the direction of such. The Assistant Grand Lecturer

of a District is the local representative of the Grand Lecturer in the work of a Council in that District.

An Administrative Council may be convened in the Chapter-room of a Chapter, at the written request of the newly elected Matron and Patron of that Chapter. Upon being authorized, by the Grand Lecturer, to convene the Council, the Assistant Grand Lecturer of the respective District will secure from the Grand Secretary a copy of the Esoteric Guide. He will be responsible to the Grand Secretary for its proper care, and for its prompt return upon the conclusion of the work of the Council in said Chapter-room. He will be responsible to the Grand Lecturer for the proper conduct of the work of the Council, and of the full eligibility of those who receive the Degree.

In addition to the Assistant Grand Lecturer of the respective Eastern Star District, the Officers of an Administrative Council of that District consist of Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Associate Matron, Treasurer, Secretary, Conductress, Associate Conductress, Chaplain, Marshal, Organist, Warder, and Sentinel. Of these Officers, the Matron, Associate Matron, Conductress, and Associate Conductress shall be Past Matrons, and the Patron a Past Patron; the Secretary shall be a Past Matron or a Past Patron. These last named six officers shall be, as far as possible, such as have previously received this degree. If the required number of such is not obtainable, the A. G. Lecturer shall inform the Grand Lecturer. The latter may then direct that the office or offices thus unfilled may be occupied by such person or persons as otherwise qualify, provided that they establish their eligibility to receive this degree; such occupancy shall then be interpreted as conferring the degree upon this occupant, or these occupants; and during the conferring of the degree upon the regularly accepted candidates for the degree, this occupant or these occupants shall be given, with due care, all of the information given such candidates; and during the obligating of the candidates, this

occupant or these occupants shall also repeat, quietly, such obligation; and at the close of the Council session such shall inform the A. G. Lecturer that she (he, or, they) assumed it with the regular candidates; whereupon, having received the hidden words and the grip, from, or by order of, the A. G. Lecturer, their names shall be recorded in an addenda, made by the A. G. Lecturer, to the minutes of the Council, and over his own signature, testifying that they have duly received the Administrative Degree; and his occupancy of office, in conferring this degree, shall bind the A. G. Lecturer and confer this degree upon him, upon his inserting his name in the addenda list of names; the Grand Lecturer becomes possessed of this degree, ex-officio, upon his notice to the Grand Secretary, of his stated review and acceptance of this degree, and the filing of such notice by the Grand Secretary. If possible, all of the Officers of a Council should be Past Officers of Chapters. The duties of the Officers of an Administrative Council are analogous to those of similar Officers in an Eastern Star Chapter, and shall be thus sustained as far as is compatible with the work of such Council.

Present and Past. Matrons and Patrons of Eastern Star Districts other than that in which the Council is convened, may participate; they may receive the Administrative Degree therein, by consent of the Assistant Grand Lecturer of their own District.

When authorized by the Grand Lecturer, for good and sufficient reasons, two or more Eastern Star Districts may unite in conferring this degree—such being done under proper conditions and restrictions.

The requisite Chapter-room furnishings, for this degree, are: an Altar-Bible, a Chapter Signet, and the American Flag; also a gavel for the East and one for the West. Besides the Altar, the usual Chapter-furniture, for such Officers as are named in third preceding paragraph, is also necessary for such, in Council work. Appropriate emblems, etc., may be

introduced; and additional music may be interspersed where suitable.

The Master and Past Masters of a Lodge, and Officers of Grand Lodges, of Craft Masonry, who are in harmony, or in affiliation with Chapters of the Order of the Eastern Star, may be invited, as a courtesy, to be present at the Council session. Every person attending a Council session must assume a pledge, not to improperly divulge any of the secrets of the Administrative Degree. Every person who does not take such pledge with the assembly at the opening of the Council, but is thereafter admitted, or is present, while the Council is in session, must assume such obligation immediately after such person becomes present in the session.

The Council-approved minutes of the Secretary of a Council shall be deposited in the archives of the Chapter in whose Chapter-room the Council is convened. These minutes shall be accessible to the Grand Matron, Grand Patron, Grand Secretary, Grand Lecturer and to the Assistant Grand Lecturer of the respective O. E. S. District or Districts. The names and Chapter names and numbers, of those who duly receive this degree, shall be forwarded to the Grand Secretary, by the Assistant Grand Lecturer of the respective District or Districts, and filed as evidence and record of their having received such degree at such time and place. The Assistant Grand Lecturer shall also furnish a list of the number receiving the degree, their District, and the time and place, to the Grand Lecturer.

OPENING CEREMONIES.

When ready for the opening exercises, the Assistant Grand Lecturer will take a seat upon the platform at the right of the Matron's chair; the other Officers, except the Organist, will assemble in the ante-room. The Patron then conducts the A. Cond. to her station, continues to the East, strikes the gavel once, and says:

Patron. Sister Associate Conductress (*she responds**), inform the Worthy Matron that the assembly is ready to receive her and the other Officers of this Council.

A. Cond. (*goes to and opens the door*). Worthy Matron, the Worthy Patron directs me to inform you that the assembly is ready to receive you and the other Officers of this Council.

Matron. Inform the Worthy Patron that we are ready to enter.

A. Cond. (*closes the door*). Worthy Patron, the Worthy Matron and her associate Officers are ready to enter.

Patron. Admit them.

The Patron calls up the Council. Music. The Officers, preceded by the Marshal, enter in two lines as in the diagram for Chapter-entrance; or in such other form as the Matron may direct. A salute to the American Flag may very properly be given soon after entrance.

When they come to a halt for the purpose, both lines will face Eastward and salute the Patron with the Public Sign of Salutation. The Patron may return the salute, and welcome the Matron. He will then say:

Patron. Sister Conductress, escort the Worthy Matron to her station.

Sister Associate Conductress, escort the Associate Matron to her station.

* Each Officer, when addressed, should rise and respond, and remain standing until the respective duty is over or until she (or, he) is seated from the East. When addressing, giving, or transmitting orders, use title, as: Worthy Matron, or, Worthy Patron.

The Matron and the A. Matron may thus be conducted partly around the Altar, in passing to their stations.

The Cond. will escort the Matron to the foot of the dais, the Patron will descend and conduct her to her station and hand her the gavel; she will then direct the Officers to assume their stations.

Matron. The Officers will assume their respective stations.

Music, while the Officers are going to their stations. The Council is seated.

Sister Warder (*she responds*), inform the Sentinel that we are engaged in the ceremonies of opening the Council and instruct him to permit no interruption while we are so engaged. Then secure the doors.

Warder gives * * * * * raps, which are answered by the Sentinel, opens the door and informs the Sentinel:

Warder. Brother Sentinel, the Worthy Matron directs me to inform you that we are engaged in the ceremonies of opening the Council and you are to permit no interruption while we are so engaged.

The Warder then secures the doors and says:

Warder. Worthy Matron, the Sentinel is informed, and there will be no interruption from without. The doors have been secured.

Matron. Sister Associate Matron (*she re-*

sponds), ascertain if all the ladies are entitled to be present.

A. Matron. Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, ascertain if all the ladies are entitled to be present.

The Cond. and A. Cond. take up one of the O. E. S. Chapter-passwords—which will be "the Password of the Evening"—after they have received it from the Matron, by passing around the Council-room, each being responsible for her respective half of it, and each taking the password from all ladies in her half of the Council-room, of whose eligibility or right to be present she is not positive. She may omit asking those of whom she is positive. Each visiting member must be prepared to show a Chapter-membership card. In this "purging of the Council-room," the password should be spoken in a low but distinct whisper and the one giving it should rise, or partly rise, in so doing. When this duty has been properly performed, the A. Cond. reports to the Cond.; both resume their stations, and the Cond. reports the result to the A. Matron. If either finds a lady whom she does not know and who is without the password, she will ask such lady to stand and will then turn to the Matron and say:

"Worthy Matron, a lady without the password."

Whereupon the Matron will inquire if any person present vouches for the lady; if not, the lady must retire and prove her eligibility. When all ladies present are entitled to remain, the Cond. reports:

Cond. Sister Associate Matron, all the ladies are entitled to be present.

A. Matron. Worthy Matron, all the ladies are entitled to be present.

Matron. Worthy Patron, are all the gentlemen entitled to be present?

If he has not ascertained, the Patron will respond:

Patron. I will ascertain and report.

If the Patron is not certain that all gentlemen present are Master Masons in good standing in their respective Lodges, he must make certain that only such are allowed to remain. No person should be admitted nor allowed to retire during the conferring of the degree, except by permission.

When the Patron has determined that all the gentlemen are entitled to be present, he will report:

Patron. Worthy Matron, all the gentlemen are entitled to be present.

The Matron then calls up the Council and says:

Matron. We are all about to obligate ourselves, not to divulge improperly, any of the secrets of this degree. Any one who is not inclined to do this, may now retire. It is understood that those who remain, thereby assume this obligation.

After waiting a moment that any such retiring may occur, the Matron says:

Matron. Worthy Patron, we are ready for the obligation.

Patron. Each person present will place the right hand on the left breast, say I, pronounce her or his own name in full, and repeat after me:

(I) will carefully preserve, and will not improperly impart the secrets of the Administrative Degree. This I declare upon my fraternal honor.

Any who enter thereafter, before the conferring of the Degree, or later by permission, must likewise be obligated, at or soon after entrance.

Matron. Let us, with our Chaplain, now unite in prayer.

The Council is called up. The Chaplain proceeds to the Altar, and offers the following or other appropriate prayer:

PRAYER.

Chaplain. Heavenly Father, vouchsafe Thy guidance and Thine aid in the exercises of this assembly. May we be so inspired by the virtues and by the noble deeds of those whose lives and services we are about to review, that we may more earnestly strive to possess and to practice such attributes, in our lives. Imbue us with Thy Holy Spirit and teach us Thy Divine Will. Direct our feet in the paths of righteousness and infuse our hearts with willing service. Dedicate our lives to words of Truth and deeds of Love. Be ever near, watch over, and preserve us; and when our days on earth are ended, translate us to Thy realm beyond the skies. To Thee we will ascribe all glory and praise, now and evermore. Amen.

All repeat. Amen.

The Chaplain returns to her (or, his) station.

MUSIC.

Matron. Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, attend at the Altar.

The Bible is opened at the fifth Chapter of the Book of Judges. The Cond. and the A. Cond. then salute the East with the Public Sign of Salutation, and resume their stations.

Matron. I now declare this Administrative Council duly open and in order (See p. 27, par. 2.)

The Council is seated.

Sister Warder, inform the Sentinel that the Council is open and in order.

Sister Conductress, give the Sentinel the "Password of the Evening."

While the Warder has the Council-entrance door open to "inform" the Sentinel, the Cond. will give the Sentinel in a careful, distinct whisper, the "Password of the Evening." Thereafter he must receive that password from all Sisters and Brothers who desire to enter, unless he is positive of their right to do so. Each visiting member of the Order must be prepared to show membership card.

Warder. Brother Sentinel, the Worthy Matron directs me to inform you that the Council is open and in order.

Cond. Brother Sentinel, the "Password of the Evening" is—

The Warder and the Cond., standing side by side, near the door, will then report to the Matron:

Warder. Worthy Matron, the Sentinel is informed that "the Council is open and in order."

Cond. Worthy Matron, the Sentinel has been given the "Password of the Evening."

The Matron will extend a cordial welcome to all present and then inquire of the Assistant Grand Lecturer whether the Council shall take a short recess, or at once proceed to confer the Degree. If he decides that a recess shall first be taken, this will be done in the manner described in Intermission (page 43).

Upon resuming the session, or, if no recess is taken, the Matron will defer to the A. G. Lecturer, thus:

Matron. Brother————, Right Worthy Assistant Grand Lecturer of the ———— District, Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, the Council is in order for the conferring of the Administrative Degree.

The A. G. Lecturer will then arise and address the Council as follows:

A. G. Lecturer. In Biblical times, in Palestine, two notable persons, Deborah and Barak, were associated for some time, in the administration of the affairs of the people of Israel.* Their lives and services have been made immortal, in the sublime, historical poem, called The Song of Deborah and Barak. This song

*See Note at end of chapter.

is a spirited lyric, and "runs the entire gamut of melody; it is charged with vivid rhetoric, filled with righteous zeal, and throbs with patriotism." It is the epic of a people.

There is a certain impressive analogy, between the administrative association of Deborah and Barak in Palestine, and that of Matron and Patron in our Chapters.

Therefore a thoughtful review of the chief events by which these historical personages became eminent, and a careful analysis of the attributes by which they so materially contributed to the welfare of their people, must prove both inspiring and helpful, to us.

Such review and analysis, supplemented by certain associated features, constitute the Administrative Degree.

The Degree will now be conferred.

CONFERRING THE DEGREE

Patron. Sister Secretary, you will read the names of those members of the Order in this State, who have made application to receive the Administrative Degree in this Council and have presented satisfactory proofs of having been elected to the office of Matron, or to that of Patron, of an Eastern Star Chapter in this State, and have otherwise fully complied with the requirements for receiving the Degree.

As each name is read, the respective candi-

date will at once arise and pass to the west of the Altar.

Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, receive the candidates.

These Officers will line-up the candidates as is most convenient.

When the Secretary has finished reading the names, the Patron will say:

Patron. Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, arrange the candidates at the Altar, in due form.

The candidates are in due form and in order, when they stand, each with the right hand on the left breast, at the west, and if in sufficient numbers, also at the north and at the south of the Altar, one or more rows deep. When they are thus arranged, the Cond. will announce to the Patron:

Cond. Worthy Patron, the candidates for this degree are in order.

The Patron will then call up the Council, and repair to the Altar, with the Matron and the A. Matron, as in the Star Degrees of a Chapter. He will then obligate the candidates:

Patron. Each of you say I, pronounce your own name in full, and repeat after me ******. (See *Esoteric Guide,*—No. 1.)

After the Obligation, the Patron will say:

Patron. It is well. You will now drop your hand (*or,* hands). Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, escort this Sister (*or,*

these Sisters, *or,* and Brother *or,* and Brothers) to seats near the "East," for further information and instruction.

They are seated near the North-east or the South-east of the room, as may be convenient. The Officers, except the Conductress, who will remain conveniently near the candidates, will resume their stations. The Matron and the Patron will then proceed to give their recitals. They may keep their seats until they give their respective Charges, when the one giving the Charge will stand. The A. Matron will stand during her recitals, as will the Cond. when speaking.

The Council is seated.

Matron. In the distant ages, the children of Israel in Palestine, did evil in the sight of the Lord—they failed to fulfill God's commands, and fell into idolatrous ways. They were conquered and forced into captivity, by Jabin, King of Canaan, and head of the Canaanitish confederacy. He reigned in Hazor, and the General of his army was Sisera, an able and successful warrior. The King had a powerful military force, including cavalry, and nine hundred iron-armed chariots of war, which were much dreaded by the Israelites. The people of Israel had been disarmed and it is said there was not a spear or a shield among them. During twenty years the King mightily oppressed them. To escape insult, wrong and pillage, the people had been compelled to desert their unprotected villages and homesteads, and to congregate in walled towns. Even at the places

where it was necessary for them to go to obtain water, they were waylaid and robbed, wounded or slain. The people no longer ventured to walk on the highways, nor found justice in the gates where the King's judges sat.

One of this oppressed people was a remarkable woman by the name of Deborah. Her history is brief, but replete with interest. She was a prophetess, and judged Israel at that time. It is said that her official designation of Judge, "probably means that she was the instrument of communication between God and his people; and probably on account of the influence and authority of her character, she was accounted in some sort, as the head of the nation, to whom questions of doubt and difficulty were referred for decision." She was endowed with superior ability, prudence and judgment, and eminently qualified to direct and to rule. She dwelt and held her patriarchal court in a tent, under a palm-tree, on Mount Ephraim, near Bethel; and there the people came to her, not only for judgment, but also for counsel.

Grieving over the bondage of her people, and the desolation to which they had been brought, and by virtue of her inspiration and service, considered a "Mother in Israel," she yielded to their cries of distress and pleadings for relief, and under interpretation of the Divine Will, set about the work of their deliverance.

She sought for a warrior of approved bravery

and experience, to lead the patriotic hosts to battle. She found such, in the person of Barak, a resident of Kedesh-Naphtali, in the hill-country near the Sea of Galilee; a district which had suffered much, if not most, at the hands of the Canaanites. She announced to him that he should redeem Israel. She declared it to be the will of the Lord that he make Mount Tabor his rallying place, with ten thousand of the mountaineers of his own and the neighboring tribes; and that she, by her wisdom, would draw Sisera, with his chariots and multitude, to the river Kishon, in the Plain of Jezreel, which is Esdraelon, before Mount Tabor; and Sisera would be delivered into his hand.

The Summons Sign, sent by Deborah, from her judgment-seat under the palm-tree on Mount Ephraim, to Barak at Kedesh-Naphtali, was preserved among the Israelites. It is adopted as a part of the secret instruction in this degree, and will now be given to you by the Conductress.

Sister Conductress, give the Sign.

The Cond. gives the Sign: ****** (See *Esoteric Guide,*—No. 2.)

Patron. Barak, although brave and experienced in the mountain warfare of his race, was "fully conscious of the difficulty of assembling and arming a respectable force," and well aware of the magnitude and the power of the enemy;

he very naturally hesitated to commit himself to an enterprise that seemed so truly hazardous.

However, evidently impressed by Deborah's spirit, and her prophecy of victory, and recognizing the importance of her power, and her influence among the people, he returned a conditional refusal, saying: "If thou wilt go with me, then I will go; but if thou wilt not go with me, then I will not go."

The Refusal Sign, returned through the messenger of Deborah, is preserved. It is adopted as a part of the secret instruction in this degree, and will now be given to you by the Conductress.

Sister Conductress, give the Sign.

The Cond. gives the Sign: ****** (See *Esoteric Guide,*—No. 3.)

Matron. Then Deborah arose and went through the length of the land to the home of Barak. She answered his conditions with womanly indignation, and with rebuke, saying: "I will surely go with thee, notwithstanding the journey that thou takest, shall not be for thine honour; for the Lord shall sell Sisera into the hand of a woman." And Deborah arose, and went with Barak to Kedesh.

Patron. Then Barak collected his forces, largely of the tribes of Naphtali and Zebulon, which occupied the great body of the hill-country, and went up on Mount Tabor with ten

thousand men; and Deborah went up with him. And it was made known to Sisera that Barak "was gone up to Mount Tabor." "And Sisera gathered together all his chariots, even the nine hundred iron-armed chariots, his cavalry, and all the people that were with him, from Harosheth of the Gentiles unto the river of Kishon." His army made its way southward and encamped on the Plain near the friendly Canaanite towns of Megiddo and Taanach, in the face of Barak's forces. "Sisera did not doubt but that he should easily surround and cut in pieces Barak's comparatively small body of men;" and especially as they were so poorly armed.

Barak's army, drawn up on the slope and the summit of Mount Tabor, could see, out beyond, spread abroad on the Plain, the innumerable hosts of the enemy, and the famous nine hundred chariots,—which, on the Plain would be almost irresistible—all slowly drawing into position.

It was a terrifying sight—for Barak's soldiers were weakened by the long and crushing despotisms of their conquerors; and they were armed with only the rudest weapons. It appeared to be certain death for them to venture down into that chariot-infested plain.

Their only possible hope seemed to lie in the plan which was adopted; this plan was for them to sweep down the mountain side, and out across the Plain, to their enemies, upon whom

they were to hurl themselves, and with their well-known war cry, not only strike terror into the hearts of their enemies, but also turn the horses upon the very host that used them; thus would they also transform the chariots into engines of wholesale destruction against the Canaanites themselves.

Matron. It is not surprising that the Israelites had been loath to engage in war with their conquerors. Long slavery weakens mind as well as body. Israel was without its own king and without any recognized leader. The people realized that, should they rebel and their rebellion fail, such fruitful fields as they might possess would be turned into deserts, their cities would be destroyed, and all who were dear to them would be threatened with slaughter. All this presented a picture too terrible for contemplation.

Notwithstanding all this, the indomitable Deborah, putting her trust in God, commanded her hero to lead his force against the enemy, at once.

"Up," she cried; "Up, for this is the day in which the Lord hath delivered Sisera into thine hand; is not the Lord gone out before thee?"

So Barak and his army, hastened down the mountain side, to sweep across the Plain and battle with the enemy.

The Command Sign, used by Deborah, has been perpetuated. It is adopted as a part of

the secret instruction in this degree, and will now be given to you by the Conductress.

Sister Conductress, give the Sign.

The Cond. gives the Sign: ****** (See *Esoteric Guide*,—No. 4.)

Patron. The battle took place on the "classic battle-ground of Scripture," the Plain of Esdraelon, in northern Palestine; it is one of the most famous battle-fields of history and is called "The Battle-field of Palestine." On this Plain, Gideon won his "victory over the Midianites, the Amalekites and the children of the East." Here also occurred the battle in which Josiah, King of Judah, opposed Pharaoh-Necho, King of Egypt, and lost his life. Here also the Israelites under King Saul were terribly defeated by the invading Philistines, King Saul and his three sons losing their lives. On this Plain the Crusaders struggled, and at a later day, the armies of Napoleon passed over it. Indeed, in 1799, Napoleon and Kleber defeated an immense Turkish army, in the battle of Mount Tabor. Also, on its border, occurred the great trial scene at Mount Carmel and the destruction of the false prophets of Baal.

On this same Plain, so memorable for desperate conflicts and for valorous deeds, and near the site of the ancient city of Megiddo, the "Armageddon" is to be fought, according to the figurative prophecy of the Apocalypse.

By this great and final world-battle, through God's grace, a signal victory is to be achieved for truth and right.

At the time Sisera's army encamped upon the Plain, it was filled with beds of dried streams, which usually in the Spring became rushing torrents. These streams unite, on the Plain, in the river Kishon, which through a deep river-bed, passes on into the Mediterranean Sea. The dryness of the Plain at this time, made it particularly suited for a Canaanite victory, by affording them good opportunity to manœuvre their horses and their chariots. The stream between the two armies was quite insignificant, the bed of the river itself being an almost-dry water-course, thus enabling an army easily to pass across it. But the Israelites, in accordance with their plan, hurled themselves upon the ranks of their enemies, like bolts from the clouds, as the Canaanites, with their chariots and their dreaded cavalry, charged out upon the Plain to meet them. The fierce and sudden onslaught of Barak's men, and their shrill war-cries, created confusion in the ranks of their enemies. Suddenly the storm, which had been brewing all the morning, broke forth, and according to Josephus, the famous Jewish and Roman historian of antiquity, "torrents of rain and of hail poured down from the heavens;" the wind blew these "in the faces of the Canaanites, and

so darkened their eyes that their arrows and slings were of no advantage to them, nor would the coldness of the air permit the soldiers to make use of their swords"; but, "the storm did not so much incommode the Israelites, because it came on their backs. The pitiless rain sent down, swept cataracts from the surrounding hills, and soon the Kishon, in dark and swollen flood, rolled foaming to the sea." All the river-beds became raging torrents, and the hard plain was turned into a miry marsh; while footmen might work their way, it yielded to the tread of cavalry, and to the heavy wheels of the chariots; the terrified plunging of the horses as they sank in the mire helped to throw the ranks of the Canaanites into hopeless confusion; leaving them fully exposed to the irresistible onrush of their eager, and agile, highland-enemies.

The Israelites, seeing their God in the storm, fought with marvelous courage, while despair settled upon the Canaanites, for the plain in which they trusted was their ruin. The Israelites fell upon the very midst of their enemies, and slew them in great numbers. "Sisera's army was seized with panic-terror. The soldiers threw away their arms and sought only how they might escape." The chariots, drawn by the terrified horses, impeded the retreat of the fugitives and soon a multitude of footmen, and charioteers, and many horses were engulfed

by the raging torrent. Sisera himself leaped from his chariot and fled homeward alone; but seeking refuge in the tent of Heber the Kenite, a Bedouin or Arab tent-dweller, he was slain by the hand of a woman, as Deborah had foretold. Some of the enemy fell by the hand of the Israelites; some, by their own madly plunging horses; and many of them were killed by their entangled chariots. The soldiers and defeated leaders who tried to cross the swollen torrent, or were pressed into it, were swept away in its flood and drowned. The Israelites pursued their enemies as far as Harosheth of the Gentiles; "and all the host of Sisera fell upon the edge of the sword; and there was not a man left."

The Lord had "fought for the avenging of Israel." "He had discomfited Sisera and all his chariots, and all his host, with the edge of the sword, before Barak." "Barak also fought with King Jabin, at Hazor, and slew him; and overthrew that city to the foundation." Deborah's prediction was fulfilled.

The power of Jabin and his allies was utterly destroyed; and "Barak was the commander of the Israelites for forty years." "The battle of the Kishon, not only gave Israel freedom, but also gave life to the idea of national unity."

A. Matron:

"O worship the King, all glorious above,
And gratefully sing His wonderful love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilion'd in splendor, and girded with praise."

"O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariot of wrath the deep thunder-clouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm."

Matron. The next day, Deborah was at the height of her glory and popularity. She was again seated in council, under her palm-tree, surrounded by the princes, nobles and chief men of Israel, who attributed the freeing of Israel from their oppressors to her prophecy, wisdom and judgment.

Deborah's heart bounded with joy, but checking all pride, she said, "Not unto me—not to Deborah, be the glory, my lords; let us ascribe it all to our merciful Jehovah, of whom I am only the humble instrument."

"It was not for his own honor that Barak had striven." Therefore he also could truly rejoice, and devoutly say with Deborah, as in the Song:

"So let all thine enemies perish, O Lord; but let them that love Him, be as the Sun when he goeth forth in his might."

And Deborah and Barak, long judged Israel. "And the land had rest forty years."

A. Matron:

"Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills; it descends to the plain;
And sweetly distils in the dew and the rain."

"Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer and Friend."

Patron. This narration concerning the lives and services of Deborah and of Barak, teaches the value of faith in God. It illustrates woman's cherished faith in, and dependence upon, the Eternal; that by these she also strengthens the faith and the courage of man. Indeed, the acts of each of these characters afford us a sublime exhibition of courage in the face of almost insuperable difficulties, and of intrepid hazard of life, out of pity and of love for those afflicted. What we have reviewed, clearly demonstrates, in principle and in result, that: the race is not always to the swift, nor the battle to the strong; but, that hope lives, love sacrifices, faith and endeavor achieve. Let us take these lessons to ourselves, zealously imitating, in our more peaceful and humbler walks of life, the worthy attributes so nobly exhibited by this heroine and by this hero.

Sister Associate Matron, we are now prepared to have you recite from the Song of Deborah and Barak.

A. Matron. In his remarks, the Right Worthy Assistant Grand Lecturer, referred to this famous Song. It is of interest to note that eminent writers say of it:

"This lyric outburst, is one of the finest in any language." It is a "specimen of the perfectly sublime ode." "Its strains are bold, varied and sublime." "It is full of abrupt and impassioned appeals and personifications. It closes with the grand promise, that the wicked shall be overthrown, while the righteous shall ever triumph in Jehovah's name."

I desire to call your special attention to the following verses of the Song:

"Praise ye the Lord for the avenging of Israel, when the people willingly offered themselves.

Hear, O ye kings; give ear, O ye princes; I, even I, will sing unto the Lord; I will sing praise to the Lord God of Israel.

My heart is toward the governors of Israel, that offered themselves willingly among the people. Bless ye the Lord.

Awake, awake, Deborah; awake, awake, utter a song; arise, Barak, and lead thy captivity captive, thou son of Abinoam.

They fought from Heaven; the stars in their courses fought against Sisera.

The river of Kishon swept them away, that ancient river, the river Kishon. O my soul, thou hast trodden down strength.

So let all thine enemies perish, O Lord; but let them that love Him be as the sun when he goeth forth in his might. And the land had rest forty years."

Patron. My Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), you have been thought worthy to occupy a position (*or,* positions) of great trust and honor in your Chapter (*or,* Chapters). Doubtless the analogy between the administrative association of Deborah and Barak, in Palestine, and that of Matron and Patron in our Chapters, is very evident to you. You have noted that: Deborah and Barak inspired and led their people to great endeavor and achievement; and encouraged, counseled and directed them in their affairs.

So, likewise, the Matron and the Patron of a Chapter should inspire their Chapter members to earnest endeavor and to worthy achievement —to the accomplishment of good deeds; should lead them in such; should encourage and counsel them; and should direct, in their respective capacities, the various proceedings of the Chapter.

We have assembled that we might invest you with such knowledge, and offer to you such advice as would better qualify you to perform successfully the duties incumbent upon you. It is important that you fully realize, that the wisdom and the ability with which you are endowed, is a God-given trust, and is for worthy service. Then, with a firm reliance on

Him, who is our Shield and Buckler, our Guardian and our Guide, you cannot fail.

Let us now all gather around the Altar, in fraternal hand-clasp, and unite in prayer with our Chaplain.

The Council is called up. As many as possible join hands around the Altar, as in The Star Degrees, but not disengaging hands nor changing their position throughout the prayer. At its conclusion, the hands are disengaged and all return to their seats. The Chaplain at the Altar recites the following prayer:

PRAYER.

Chaplain. O, Thou Supreme Administrator of the Universe, quicken in us our sense of responsibility, and our recognition of each others sincerity and worth.

May the faith, courage, and unselfish services of those whose lives and deeds have been portrayed, fill us with a spirit of admiration and of emulation.

May those among us who have been selected to guide and to guard the destinies of Chapters during the ensuing year be enabled to exemplify, unceasingly, the beauties of Faith, Hope and Charity.

Grant that, as they, with human frailty, preside over others, Thou wilt, with Thy Divine Omnipotence ,preside over them, imparting Truth and Wisdom to them.

Shield them from harm, preserve them for service, and fill them with Thy Love.

Bestow upon all of us and upon those dear to us, Thy richest blessings. May Thy kingdom in our hearts increasingly reflect the glories of Thy kingdom on High. May peace and love so rule the hearts of men that all the nations of the earth shall rejoice and acclaim Thy praise, hailing Thee their King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Amen.

All respond: Amen and Amen.

Chaplain returns to station, and the Council is seated.

Patron. The Worthy Matron of this Council will now deliver the "Charge to the Matrons."

The Matron will then arise and deliver the following charge, to such Matrons as are candidates:

CHARGE TO MATRON(S)

Matron. My Sister (*or,* Sisters), I congratulate you upon the honors to which you have attained, and cordially welcome you into the possession of this degree.

You having been selected (each of you) as the Matron of your (respective) Chapter, it is very necessary that you thoroughly fit yourself (*or,* yourselves) to govern, and to dispense wisdom as well as justice.

The proper dispensing of justice invokes the interest and the admiration of humanity. It is the bond which holds together civilized individuals and civilized nations. Wherever the

true Temple of Justice stands, and as long as it is duly honored, there is a foundation for social security, for general happiness and for the improvement and the progress of our race. Whoever lays such foundation, erects such edifice, or strengthens the pillars, adorns the entablatures, or contributes to raise the august dome still higher in honor and in usefulness, is worthily connected, in name, in fame, and in character, with that which is, and ever must be, as durable as the renown achieved through great and heroic deeds.

The high position to which you have attained, in the Order, is the best proof that you are acquainted with the requisites necessary to constitute an efficient Matron; also, that you are familiar with the duties and the serious responsibilities which will necessarily devolve upon you. The honor, reputation and usefulness of your Chapter will depend chiefly upon the way in which you discharge the duties of your office. If you should be satisfied with merely knowing by rote the formulas, the phrases and the ordinary ceremonials of the work, having no care or concern for your Chapter, you *may* maintain good order and may conduct the work with regularity; but you will soon see indifference take the place of zeal, tardiness of punctuality, lassitude of interest and immobility of activity.

The beacon that turned all its rays *inward,*

and confined them to the narrow precincts which it occupied, would be useless to a mariner who was feeling his way through storm and darkness toward an unseen haven. The Chapter that gives no light beyond its walls, is like the individual who hides the light of knowledge within himself, and plays the churl with the treasures that God has given him for the common good. Omit no opportunity to impress upon your members the import and the weight of their obligations to each other and to the world. Comment upon these, over and over, in all their solemnity.

Arouse the indolent, encourage the despondent and invite the reflecting members to perform some service, the influence of which shall be felt beyond the limits of the Chapter; something for society, something for humanity, something for God. Frequently appeal to them to cöoperate, most earnestly, with you for the good of the Chapter, admonishing them so to act and so to conduct themselves that no discredit nor reproach will be brought upon it.

Furthermore, as to yourself, realize that whenever your Chapter is closed without your associates having been inspired to renewed efforts, the distressed relieved or comforted, or the members given some useful information, you will have failed to do your duty.

We trust that you will so conduct yourself as to win the highest success, to be worthy of

the plaudits and esteem of those about you, and to serve as an inspiration to those who shall come after you. May it be said of you, in the words of Holy Writ: "She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness."

May you and your members achieve such harmony of purpose and of action, that, looking to God for guidance and for aid, you shall together say, in spirit and in truth:

"Help us to help each other,
Each other's cross to bear,"
May each some gracious aid afford,
And lift the other's care.

"Touched by the lodestone of Thy love,
May all our hearts agree;"
We'll ever for each other act,
And ever trust in Thee.

When the Matron has concluded this Charge and taken her seat, the Patron will arise and deliver the Charge to such Patron (*or*, Patrons) as are candidates, or, to receive the Degree.

CHARGE TO PATRON(S)

Patron. My Brother (*or*, Brothers), I congratulate you upon the honor and distinction to which you have acceded, and welcome you into the possession of the Degree. I trust that you fully realize that all the responsibilities and

duties of the Matron's position also devolve upon you; for, are you not her official adviser, and also subject to her call for you to act for her? If when you advise her, your advice is bad, you discredit her and also the Chapter; and if you are unable to advise, you are not measuring up to the trust imposed in you and the honor that has been conferred upon you. If you do not thoroughly qualify yourself to do well the work which is specially delegated to you, and to offer helpful suggestion and advice to the other Officers in their work, and do not carefully scrutinize the work of the staff of Officers, and endeavor to insure their proficiency in their work, all concerned must suffer from your inability and from your neglect. You should ever maintain an active loyalty to the work and to the Chapter—safeguarding them against criticism. Finally, do not cease to be mindful that you will be judged by the quality of your work. May you be enabled to acquit yourself, in these your grave responsibilities, with honor to yourself, and with lasting benefit to all concerned.

May you and your Chapter associates, by unity of spirit and strength of cooperation for Truth, insure the fulfillment of the high mission and the rich service for which Chapter and Order have been established.

When the Patron has concluded this Charge and taken his seat (or, if there are no Patrons to charge,

and, therefore, this charge is omitted), then (after the Matron's charge) the A. Matron will arise and say:

A. Matron.

"Now to Heaven our cry ascending,
God speed the right!
In a noble cause contending,
God speed the right!

May we live our lives before Thee,
Like the good and great in story,
If we fail, we fail with glory,—
God speed the right!

Patient, firm, and persevering,
God speed the right!
No event or danger fearing,
God speed the right!

Pains, nor toils, nor trials heeding,
Never from the truth receding,
And in Heaven's own time succeeding,
God speed the right!"

The Patron will then arise and proceed to give the *hidden* words to the candidates. When he directs the Cond. to assist in giving these words, she will advance to the foot of the dais to receive the word, and to impart it to the candidates. In doing the latter, she will preserve the strictest secrecy. She will act in these features of the Degree, until they are completed.

Patron. My Sister (*or,* Sisters, *or,* and Brother, *or,* and Brothers), you will now be given, very secretly, the hidden words. They are imparted only to those who receive this degree; and you are under strict injunction, not to reveal them to any person who has not received this Administrative Degree.

These words will, with the Signs already explained to you, identify you to individuals, and admit you to such gathering as is composed only of those who have received this Administrative Degree.

Sister Conductress, assist in giving these words.

The first word is The Guard Word. It is ********* (See *Esoteric Guide,*—No. 5.)

The second word is The Pass Word. It is ********* (See *Esoteric Guide,*—No. 6.)

The third word is The Administrator's Word. It is the *last* word, in the sentence which will now be given you. For test or identification purposes, this sentence is to be casually used in a conversation. It is ********** (See *Esoteric Guide,*—No. 7.)

The fourth word is The Response. This word should be given by the one being tested with The Administrator's Word, upon hearing the sentence of which that is a part. The response is ********* (See *Esoteric Guide,*—No. 8.)

The Motto of this Degree is ********** (See *Esoteric Guide*,—No. 9.)

The Grip, or Token, of this Degree, will now be given to you ********. (See *Esoteric Guide*, —No. 10.)

This completes the Degree. You will now be conducted to the Secretary's desk, where you will sign your name, and write the name, the number and the District of your Chapter, in the record of this meeting. You will then be seated.

Sister Conductress (*or*, and Associate), conduct the candidates.

(Gavel.*)

The Patron takes his seat. The Matron may then very properly invite the A. G. Lecturer to make some remarks. Then, any other person desired. An intermission may be taken if desired. The Matron will have the minutes of the Council read, and when found correct, approved.

Matron. We will now have the reading of the minutes, of this Council, and act upon them.

Sister Secretary, read the minutes of this Council.

When the minutes have been read:

Matron. Are there any corrections or additions?

If so, they should be made satisfactorily. Then:

Matron. Those in favor of approving these

minutes, as read (or, as read and corrected), say I!—Those opposed, say No!—The motion is carried (or, is lost). The minutes are approved (*or,* not approved, requiring *further* action).

If the motion to approve is not carried (a majority vote being necessary to carry), corrections should be made until it is carried. The fact that the minutes were duly approved should be entered after them, as an addenda, and with such, a statement that the Council was then duly closed. This should be followed by the Secretary's signature.

CLOSING CEREMONIES.

The business of the Council having been completed, the Matron will proceed to close, as follows:

Matron. The work of this Council having been completed, we shall proceed to close. Sister Warder, instruct the Sentinel that we are about to close this Council, and direct him to permit no interruption while we are thus engaged.

The Warder instructs the Sentinel, and then says:

Warder. Worthy Matron, there will be no interruption.

Matron. Let us unite in singing a closing ode.

The Council is called up. All unite in singing, and at the conclusion of the singing, the Matron will say:

Matron. Let us unite in prayer.

The Chaplain will proceed to the west of the Altar and offer the following or other appropriate prayer:

PRAYER.

Our Father, who art in Heaven, go with us as we separate to take up our allotted duties and individual responsibilities. Endue us with stronger Faith, greater Hope and broader Charity. Enable us to determine with wisdom, to act with firmness, and to forgive all who do us wrong. Uphold us with Thy right hand and with Thy counsel. Bless us and finally save us, for Thy Name's sake. Amen.

All repeat: Amen.

Chaplain returns to her (*or*, his) station.

Matron. Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, attend at the Altar.

They close the Bible, salute with the Public Sign of Salutation, and return to their stations.

Sister Warder, inform the Sentinel that this Council is closed.

The Warder opens the door, as in Chapter work (see p. 27, par. 2), and informs the Sentinel.

Warder. Brother Sentinel, the Worthy Matron directs me to inform you that this Council is closed.

The Warder then closes the door and says:

Warder. Worthy Matron, the Sentinel is informed that the Council is closed.

Matron. Farewell (*Gives the Public Sign of Salutation*).

All respond: Farewell! (*Return the same salute.*)

The Matron gives with gavel*.

NOTE.

Deborah's dwelling-place, on Mount Ephraim, between Ramah and Bethel, was about ten miles north of Jerusalem, sixty miles south of Mount Tabor, and about a hundred miles south of Kedesh-Naphtali. Hazor was about five miles south of Kedesh. Deborah's name means a bee, and a bee was the Egyptian symbol of regal power.

"Deborah judged Israel in connection with Barak, B.C. 1409-1369." (Cyclopædia of Biblical, Theological and Ecclesiastical Literature, Vol. II., page 716.)

"She was not so much a Judge (a title which belongs rather to Barak, Heb. xi. 32) as one gifted with prophetic command."

The deaths of Barak and Deborah occurred at about the same time.

"In emergencies," among the Israelites, "men (or, women) of talent and energy took the lead, their only authority being their ability. They were regarded as 'raised up,' or divinely sent. * * * When one had gained authority by displaying ability in a crisis, he became a 'Judge,' in the forensic use of the term." (Universal Cyclopædia and Atlas, Vol. VI., page 493.)

Barak's forces were not so much an army as a people. The name Barak means lightning.

Barak called Zebulun and Naphtali to Kedesh, and the men of that region marched to Mount Tabor with him. "Recruits came in from Issachar, and Manasseh, and Ephraim, and Benjamin, but the more

distant tribes, though invited to the contest, failed to be represented."

In Napoleon's battle with the Turks at Mount Tabor in 1799, numbers of fugitive Turks were swept away by the torrent of the Kishon and drowned.

Flavius Josephus, "a Jewish and Roman historian," was born in Jerusalem, 37 A.D. He was of both royal and sacerdotal lineage. Among his countrymen he was esteemed as a scholar, and passed many years in the leading Greek, Roman, and Jewish schools of his time. He was a voluminous writer, especially on Jewish history. For a time he was Governor of Galilee. He died 97 A.D.

Harosheth of the Gentiles was the home of Sisera. It was in the north of Palestine, near the foot of Mount Carmel, at a narrow pass, where the Kishon flows close to the foot of the Mount.

Regarding Bethel, it is said that "few spots of earth gather upon them so much that is hallowed and venerable as Bethel." Originally its name was Luz. It was destroyed by Josiah. Its present ruins cover four or five acres.

"In the gates": In those times it was the custom to transact all business of a public nature and to administer justice in the gates. Thus such had the binding obligation of many witnesses, and justice was easily and speedily administered, among the people, at the hours when they passed to and fro between the fields and the city (or, walled towns). "And such hours were, for this reason, those at which the Judges and Elders gave their attendance in the gates." (Univ. Cyclop.)

A. H. B.

Organizing a Chapter.

ORGANIZING A CHAPTER.

When a Chapter is to be organized, the organizing members will assemble in the room designated for the meeting. Those who have not received the Star Degrees, however, will remain in the ante-room until brought in for initiation. The meeting room should be arranged as for Chapter work.

The organizing ceremony should be performed by the Grand Matron or her representative and a staff of Grand Officers. The Grand Officers will assemble in an adjoining room. The Grand Marshal will assume the East in the Chapter room and will call the company to order. He will direct two Sisters, previously selected, to inform the Grand Matron that the members of the Order are ready to welcome her. They will retire and inform the Grand Matron, who will direct the Grand Officers to proceed to the Chapter room. They will do so in the following order:

A. G. Marshal
A. G. Conductress
Grand Electa
Grand Martha
Grand Com. of Appeals (3)
Grand Chaplain
Grand Historian
Grand Trustees (4)
Grand Treasurer
A. G. Matron
Grand Matron

A. G. Marshal
Grand Conductress
Grand Adah
Grand Ruth
Grand Esther
Grand Warder
Grand Com. of Appeals (2)
Grand Chaplains (2)
Grand Lecturer
Grand Trustees (3)
Grand Secretary
A. G. Patron
Grand Patron

As the procession enters, the gathering is called up. An appropriate ode may be sung. The Grand Marshal then welcomes the Grand Matron in a few words, and says:

G. Marshal. Sister Grand Conductress and Sister Associate Grand Conductress, escort the M. W. Grand Matron and M. W. Grand Patron to the East.

When the G. Matron and G. Patron arrive at the foot of the dais, the G. Marshal will descend and escort the G. Matron to her station, hand her the gavel and retire from the East. The G. Patron will take his place.

G. Matron. The Officers will assume their respective stations and prepare for the duties before us.

Grand Officers will take their respective stations. The Assembly is seated.

G. Matron. Sister Grand Warder, inform the Sentinel that we are engaged in the ceremonies of opening a Grand Officers' Assembly and instruct him to permit no interruption while we are so engaged.

The Sentinel is informed, the G. Warder reports to the G. Matron, and the Assembly is "purged" of non-members of the Order in conformity with the procedure given on pages 27 and 28 for Subordinate Chapters. When this has been done, the G. Matron will say:

G. Matron. Sisters and Brothers, we have assembled at this time for the purpose of or-

ganizing a Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. The Order is an organization composed of the mothers,* wives, daughters,* sisters,* and widows of Master Masons and Master Masons. Although it is closely related to the honorable fraternity of Master Masons, yet it forms no part of it. The Order of the Eastern Star, however, should be very dear to the hearts of the members of the great Brotherhood, for it is composed of many of their own number, and those most closely connected with them by the sacred ties of kinship. Here the mothers, wives, daughters, sisters and widows of Master Masons may become co-laborers with them in the service of humanity. They can aid in advancing the great work in which the Brotherhood of Masons is engaged. I extend a cordial welcome to all, and I hope that the Chapter which we are about to organize may become a bright Star in the constellation of Chapters in this jurisdiction.

Sister Grand Conductress and Sister Associate Grand Conductress, attend at the Altar.

The same ceremony will be observed as in Subordinate Chapter work (see page 38).

(*Soft Music.*)

G. Matron. Before we proceed with the solemn ceremonies of this occasion, let us ask strength from Him who giveth it freely.

* Includes legally adopted daughters, half-sisters and foster mothers of legally adopted sons.

The Assembly is called up. The Chaplain will give the following or other appropriate prayer at the Altar:

PRAYER.

G. *Chaplain.* Almighty Father, who desirest to rule in the hearts of men, look down upon us at this time and give us strength properly to perform the work that is before us. Help us to realize our need of dependence upon Thee. Enable each one in Thy presence to appreciate fully the importance of the great work about to be inaugurated. May the members of this new Chapter be actuated by enthusiasm and loyalty, and be imbued with a spirit of devotion to Thee. May they exemplify in their lives the lessons taught by the heroines of our Order.

Enrich by Thine own goodness the minds and the hearts of those who shall be set apart as Officers. May they be living examples of those great virtues,—truth, constancy, fidelity, faith and beneficence which are so graphically portrayed in the Star Degrees of our Order.

May peace and love prevail. May this Chapter be a blessing to every one who enters its sacred portals and to this community. All praise shall be Thine. Amen.

All repeat, Amen.

The G. Chaplain returns to his station. The Assembly is seated. An appropriate ode may be sung.

G. Matron. I now declare this Grand Officers' Assembly, for Chapter organization, open and in order for Chapter organization.

Sister Grand Warder, inform the Sentinel that this Assembly is open and in order for business.

Sister Grand Conductress, give the Sentinel the password.

The Assembly is seated.

These Officers perform their respective duties and report to the G. Matron in conformity with the procedure given on page 39.

If any of those who are to be organizing members of the proposed Chapter have not received the Star Degrees of the Order before the organization meeting, they must receive them before the reading of the dispensation for the formation of the proposed Chapter. The Star Degrees may be conferred upon them "at sight"* by the G. Patron or his representative with the approval of the G. Matron, if not possible to have them conferred in the usual manner before the meeting for the organization of the proposed Chapter. Immediately after the Sentinel has been informed that the Assembly is open and in order for business, such persons should be named and vouched for by the G. Matron, or by the G. Secretary at the G. Matron's request, as eligible and worthy to receive the Star Degrees, and consequently to become organizing members of the proposed Chapter. The matter of fees should then be adjusted in accordance with the requirements of the Grand Chapter.

The G. Matron will say:

* "At sight," i. e., by declaration, without formal initiation.

G. Matron. Sister Associate Grand Conductress, retire and ascertain if there are any persons without, waiting to receive the Star Degrees, that they may become organizing members of the proposed Chapter. You will make your report to the Grand Patron.

The G. Matron then turns the gavel over to the G. Patron. The A. G. Cond. retires and returning reports to the G. Patron.

A. G. Cond. Most Worthy Grand Patron,* I find ———— (naming the person or persons), present and desirous of receiving the degrees.

Patron. Most Worthy Grand Matron, is this petitioner (or, are these petitioners) eligible and worthy to receive the Star Degrees and to then become organizing members of the proposed Chapter?

Upon being informed in the affirmative, the Patron will direct their preparation:

G. Patron. She (he, or, they) having been vouched for, Sister Associate Grand Conductress, you will again retire and prepare (her, him or them) for Initiation, and when so prepared give the usual alarm at the inner door of the Preparation Room.

The regular initiatory procedure is then followed (see pages 55, 56, 57), but the candidates are taken directly west of the Altar and presented, instead of being conducted about the room. They are then announced to the G. Patron thus:

* If a Substitute is filling an office, prefix (Acting) to usual title.

G. Cond. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor to present ———— (naming the person or persons), who has (or, have) been found worthy and who desires (or, desire) to enter our Order.

The G. Patron will then address them in the usual words for receiving candidates for the Star Degrees and follow the usual initiation procedure through the words, "Arise! May your pathway be resplendent with the light of truth." (See pages 60, 61, 62, 63). The G. Patron, the G. Matron and the A. G. Matron then return to their respective stations. The G. Patron will then say:

G. Patron. ———— (naming the person or persons just obligated), by virtue of the authority in me vested, I hereby confer the Star Degrees of our Order upon you "at sight." Sister Grand Conductress (or, and Sister Associate Grand Conductress), conduct our Sister (or, Sisters, etc.) to a seat (or, to seats) with the other organizing members.

The G. Patron will then return the gavel to the G. Matron, who will say:

G. Matron. Sister Grand Secretary, read the Dispensation of the Grand Matron authorizing the formation of this Chapter.

The G. Secretary will read the Dispensation. As the names in the Dispensation are read, each person called will rise and respond, "Present," and remain standing until seated by the G. Matron. Should the name of any person not present be called, such name must be erased from the Dispensation.

G. Matron. Sisters and Brothers, you have heard read the Dispensation granted to you. Do you accept it upon the conditions named therein?

All answer. The Assembly is called up, and the organizing members of the proposed Chapter will assemble around the Altar. The G. Patron will administer the following Obligation to them:

G. Patron. Each of you will place the right hand upon the left breast, say I, and repeat after me—will bear true fealty and allegiance to the laws and the Regulations of the Grand Chapter, and to the By-Laws of the Chapter of which I may be a member. I will never be governed by personal animosity in my dealings with my fellow members. I will avoid disputes and evil speaking. I will be courteous to my Sisters and Brothers. I will do all in my power to promote the good of the Order of the Eastern Star. These pledges I promise faithfully to keep.

The G. Patron will return to his station. The Assembly is seated.

G. Matron. You have selected and named, in your Petition, Sister ———— to be Worthy Matron, Brother ———— to be Worthy Patron, and Sister ———— to be Associate Matron. Do you still desire that they shall fill the positions for which they have been chosen?

The members answer. The Assembly is called up.

G. Matron. Sister Grand Conductress and Sister Associate Grand Conductress, conduct the Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron to the East.

The G. Cond. will escort the Matron and the A. G. Cond. the Patron. Music.

G. Matron. The Grand Officers will vacate their chairs and the newly selected Officers will assume them.

The newly selected Officers having assumed their stations, the Assembly is called up.

The Grand Chaplain will now lead us in prayer.

The G. Chaplain will then offer the following or other appropriate prayer at the Altar:

PRAYER.

Our Father who art in Heaven, look down upon us at this time and bless the work accomplished. We realize that although Paul may plant and Appollos may water, Thou alone canst give the increase. We know that man buildeth his house in vain, unless the Lord doth build it. In Thy Name, we organize this Chapter, and we beseech Thee to dwell within this temple. May the spirit of harmony at all times prevail among the members, and may peace and joy be within these

walls. Strengthen those who have at this time been set apart as office-bearers. May they faithfully and conscientiously discharge every duty that devolves upon them. May they so rule that prosperity may crown the efforts of the members. The glory shall be Thine, now and forever. Amen.

All respond, Amen.
The Chaplain returns to her (or, his) station.

G. Matron. In the name of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, and by virtue of the authority in me vested, as (Acting) Grand Matron, I now declare ———— Chapter duly organized, and its members authorized to exercise the rights of a Chapter Under Dispensation.

An appropriate ode may be sung and the Chapter is seated.

G. Matron. The members of ———— Chapter, just organized, will repair to the Secretary's desk and each one sign her or his name upon the record of this meeting.

After this is done the degrees may be exemplified, or other exercises indulged in. The ceremonies of Opening and Closing should be exemplified.

Constituting a Chapter.

CONSTITUTING A CHAPTER.

Every Chapter receiving a Charter from the Grand Chapter must be regularly constituted, according to the following ceremonies, by the Grand Matron, or her representative and a staff of Grand Officers. The room must be arranged as for Chapter work, and may be decorated with flowers, flags, or emblems, and music may be introduced during the ceremonies. The Chapter will be opened in the regular form. The Grand Officers will assemble in an adjoining room, and form a procession in the following order:

Grand Marshal.

A. G. Marshal.
A. G. Conductress.
Grand Electa.
Grand Martha.
Grand Commissioners of Appeals (3).
Grand Chaplain, carrying Bible.
Grand Historian.
Grand Trustees (4).
Grand Treasurer.
A. G. Matron.
Grand Matron.

A. G. Marshal
Grand Conductress.
Grand Adah.
Grand Ruth.
Grand Esther.
Grand Warder.
Grand Commissioners of Appeals (2).
Grand Chaplains (2).
Grand Lecturer.
Grand Trustees (3).
Grand Secretary.
A. G. Patron.
Grand Patron.

When all is in readiness the G. Matron will direct the G. Conductress, accompanied by the G. Marshal, to inform the Matron of the Chapter that she is ready to constitute the Chapter and have its Officers installed. As the G. Cond. and G. Marshal enter, the Chapter is called up. The G. Cond. communicates the directions of the G. Matron as follows:

G. Cond. Worthy Matron, the Most Worthy Grand Matron* of the Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, directs me to inform you that she is ready to constitute ———— Chapter, No. ——, and to have its officers installed.

Matron. Sister Grand Conductress, convey to the Most Worthy Grand Matron our appreciation of her presence, and inform her that we shall be pleased to receive her.

The G. Cond. and G. Marshal salute and retire. (Public Sign of Salutation.) Chapter is seated. The G. Cond. repeats to the G. Matron the response of the Matron. The G. Matron says to her staff:

G. Matron. The Chapter is duly convened and ready to receive us. Let us proceed.

The door is thrown open. The Chapter is called up. The procession enters, and passing to the right and left of the Altar, brings the G. Matron and the G. Patron immediately west of the Altar. After salutation (Public Sign), and while standing at the Altar, the Matron makes the following or other appropriate remarks:

Matron. Most Worthy Grand Matron and Most Worthy Grand Patron, in behalf of the members of ———— Chapter, under Dispensation, I bid you and those who accompany you a hearty and sincere welcome. Under any

* If a substitute is filling an office, prefix (Acting) to proper title.

circumstances, your presence among us would be hailed with delight, but it now affords us especial pleasure to receive you, bearing, as you do, the glad tidings of your intention to constitute us a Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. We are desirous of proving ourselves worthy, and are willing to assume the duties and responsibilities that come with perfected organization. Sister Conductress and Associate Conductress, escort the Most Worthy Grand Matron and the Most Worthy Grand Patron to the East.

The G. Matron and the G. Patron are escorted to the East and received with the Grand Honor Sign. The Matron hands the gavel to the G. Matron who, on accepting it, will respond with the following or other appropriate remarks:

G. Matron. We thank you and the members of this new Chapter for your cordial welcome. The sentiments you express are most pleasing, and it is our hope that the members of this Chapter may ever be actuated by such, and that the body over which you preside may prove to be a bright star in the great constellation of Chapters in our Order. The Officers of ————Chapter will surrender their places to the Officers of the Grand Chapter.

The Officers of the Grand Chapter will take the vacated places, according to corresponding titles, A. G. Patron in West beside A. G. Matron. The Officers of the new Chapter will be seated together on one side of the room. The Chapter

is seated. The jewels will be collected and placed in readiness for use. A suitable ode may be sung. At the conclusion of the singing the G. Matron will say:

G. Matron. At the recent session of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, a Charter was granted to the members of ———— Chapter, No. ——, establishing and confirming them in all of the rights and privileges of a regularly constituted Chapter of the Order. The Grand Secretary will now read this Charter.

After the reading of the Charter the G. Matron will say:

G. Matron. Sisters and Brothers, members of ———— Chapter, you have heard read the Charter granted by the Grand Chapter to this Chapter. Do you accept it upon the conditions therein named?

Answer ————

G. Matron. Having accepted this Charter, my Sisters and Brothers, you thereby assume the duties and responsibilities which that instrument imposes. To perform those duties aright, requires constant effort and careful watchfulness over all your actions.

You should maintain a fixed determination to make the work of this Chapter interesting and instructive. It should not be limited to the ceremonies of Opening, Closing, and the

conferring of Degrees, but should also be devoted to mutual instruction, to the practice of social virtues and to the cultivation of an active and earnest benevolence. Therefore, be actuated by the noble desire to be useful to your associates and to extend the knowledge of the beautiful lessons taught by our Order. Thus will this Chapter prove a blessing to the world.

Before we proceed with the ceremonies of this important occasion, let us ask our Heavenly Father to prosper this work and bless our labors.

The Chapter is called up. The G. Chaplain offers the following or other appropriate prayer at the Altar:

PRAYER.

Our Father, Source of all things, Thou who art revealed unto us in the visible things of this universe, Thy Creation, be pleased to endow us with truth, constancy, fidelity, faith and benevolence. Light with Thy presence this new temple which we have now erected and constituted. Make it verily a holy house, a place where peace and pure thoughts shall always dwell. Strengthen the hearts and illumine the souls of those who are of this household. Encourage the true and faithful everywhere. Bless and prosper our undertakings that we may benefit mankind and honor Thee. Amen.

An appropriate ode should be sung. The Chapter is seated.

G. Matron. Brother Grand Marshal, let the members of the Chapter about to be constituted, with their Officers-elect, form one of our revered symbols, an equilateral triangle, around the Altar.

The G. Marshal will place the members as directed. Officers together on both sides of the western angle, all facing inward, an apex of the triangle at the East. When so arranged, he will say:

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Matron, the members of the Chapter about to be constituted, are in order.

The G. Matron calls up the Chapter, descends, and with the G. Patron and the G. Chaplain, passes within the triangle through the Eastern apex. The Grand Officers and the members of other Chapters will form a square around all, as perfectly as the limits of the room will permit. Adah will then recite:

Adah. The story of "Adah," Jephthah's daughter, as portrayed in the Ritual of the Order of the Eastern Star, inculcates filial devotion, integrity and truth.

A sentence of a hymn or a chant may be sung as each Star Point concludes her recital.

Ruth. The story of the humble gleaner, Ruth, inculcates constancy, loyalty and industry.

Esther. The story of Queen Esther, who saved her people from destruction, inculcates justice, courage and fidelity.

Martha. The story of Martha, so graphically portrayed in our Ritual, inculcates abiding faith.

Electa. The legendary story of "Electa" inculcates beneficence, fortitude and steadfastness.

G. Patron. Such are the sublime and important lessons taught by these impressive narratives. The Order of the Eastern Star inculcates these attributes in the hope that they will be exemplified in the lives of its members. Therein, may this new Chapter, of the Order, become a bright and shining light.

A sentence of a hymn or a chant may be sung.

G. Matron. Sisters and Brothers, before I proceed to constitute this Chapter, I will receive your pledges of fidelity. They are entirely consistent with your former pledges as members of the Order:

1. Do you promise that you will bear true fealty and allegiance to the laws and Regulations of the Grand Chapter, and the By-Laws of the Chapter of which you may be a member?

Ans. I do. (Each must answer.)

2. Do you promise that you will never be governed by personal animosities or prejudices in matters relating to members of your Chap-

ter, or to other members of the Order, applying for admission into your Chapter?

Ans. I do. (Each must answer.)

3. Do you promise that you will contribute, so far as may be in your power, to the general good of the Order, avoid disputes, evil speaking, that you will be kind and courteous to the members of the Order, wherever you may meet them.

Ans. I do. (Each must answer.)

G. Matron. Repeat, then, with me.

All must repeat as follows:

All. These my sacred and solemn pledges, I will truly and faithfully keep.

The sentence, "Lord have mercy upon us and help us to keep these vows," may be sung. The G. Matron will then say:

G. Matron. Let us invoke the Divine blessing.

The G. Chaplain, at the Altar, will offer the following or other appropriate prayer:

PRAYER.

G. Chaplain. Almighty Father, who art constantly manifesting Thyself to us by Thy works, graciously receive the profound homage that we pay to Thee, and permit us to consecrate to Thy name this living temple which we are about to constitute.

Take under thy especial protection all those who shall be lawfully appointed to rule there-

in, that they may faithfully comply with all the obligations by them contracted toward Thee, and toward all to whom they are bound by the bonds of fraternity.

Grant that those who constitute this Chapter shall be one in heart, and one in purpose; that they shall love, honor and obey Thee, and love each other as Thou lovest them. May they meet one another here, as the children of one Father, whose beneficent hand reaches out to all his children, and leads them by the straight and narrow path to the gates of eternal life.

When the hand on Time's dial points to the final hour of our earthly labors, and our waning strength reminds us how mortal is man, take us, O Heavenly Father, by the hand, and lead us through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, to that home where are peace and happiness for those who love and honor Thee and keep Thy commandments. Amen.

All respond, Amen.

The Grand Officers and all others will resume their stations. A suitable ode may be sung.

The G. Matron will then say:

G. Matron. In the name of our Heavenly Father, unto whom be all honor and glory forever, and in the name of the Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, I pronounce and declare this Chapter duly constituted, in ample form, under the distinctive name and title of ———— Chapter, No.

——, Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, in accordance with the terms of its Charter. I consecrate it a living Temple to the works of charity and beneficence and to the service of justice, loyalty and truth. May peace reign within it. May it abundantly prosper, and all its undertakings prove wise and good, and be crowned with success.

A strain of triumphant music may be played. The G. Matron will say:

G. Matron. Attention! Sisters and Brothers, give the Grand Honor Sign.

The Chapter is seated.

These ceremonies being concluded, the G. Matron will hand the gavel to the G. Patron, who will proceed with the Installation of Officers as provided in the Ritual and in the Constitution of the Grand Chapter.

Installation of Officers

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

Every Officer of a Chapter must be installed before entering upon official duties. The Installation must be conducted by a Present or Past Patron. (See sections 41 and 42 of Constitution.) The ceremonies of Installation may be performed either in public or in private. If in public, the Chapter must not be publicly opened in the form in which it is opened in its private sessions. (See Public Ceremonies, page 259, and note at end.)

Upon assuming the chair, the Installing Officer will ask the Matron for the Charter, By-Laws and the Roll of members of the Chapter and the Constitution of the Grand Chapter, if they have not already been handed to him. He may make a short address of congratulation to the Matron and to the Chapter and express his appreciation of the courtesies extended to him. He may deliver an address on the history and the purposes of the Order. He will appoint a Sister to act as the Marshal of the Installation, the retiring Matron preferred, a sister or a brother to act as Chaplain, and a Brother as Assistant Marshal. He will request the Chapter Officers to vacate their stations, turning over their emblems to the Marshal and to the Assistant Marshal, who will place them at the Altar. The Secretary will then announce the names of the Officers who are to be installed. The Installing Officer will then proceed as follows:

Inst. Officer. In the discharge of our duties as members of the Order of the Eastern Star, the selection and setting apart of the Officers who are to direct the affairs of the Chapter is

very important. Into their hands is committed very largely the welfare of the Chapter and the good of the Order. The words and deeds of such Officers may greatly influence the work of the Chapter and determine its prosperity. You have made your selections for the coming year, but before inducting these new Officers into their several stations, let us invoke the blessing of Him from whom cometh wisdom and strength. Brother (*or,* Sister) Chaplain, lead us in prayer.

The Chapter is called up. The Chaplain repairs to the Altar and offers the following or other appropriate prayer:

PRAYER.

Chaplain. O, Lord God, Thou who hearest and answerest prayer, look down upon us at this time and bless us. Let the influence of Thy Holy Spirit be felt in every heart. Be pleased to give to those who shall this night be set apart to official position, the needed wisdom to discharge their duties with fidelity. Endue them with a just appreciation of the responsibilities they are about to assume and give them strength to meet those responsibilities and to fulfil every obligation that may devolve upon them. Give to the members of this Chapter, a spirit of devotion to the principles of the Order, and a fixed purpose to uphold the hands of those whom they have selected to

serve them. Direct our footsteps in the paths of peace and crown our labors for the advancement of our Order, with success. Thine shall be the praise forevermore. Amen.

All respond, Amen.

Chaplain returns to her (or, his) station.

An appropriate sentence or verse may be sung. The Chapter is seated.

Inst. Officer. Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, present at the Altar, the Officers elected and appointed.

The Marshal and the Assistant Marshal will arrange the Officers to be installed in a semi-circle West of the Altar, facing the East, the Matron and the Patron within the semi-circle.

Marshal. Worthy Patron* [or, Most (or, Right) Worthy Grand Patron], the Officers are in order.

Inst. Officer. Sisters and Brothers, you behold those who have been selected as the Officers to serve you for the ensuing year. If any member of this Chapter knows of any just or sufficient reason why any of these should not be installed, let the objection now be made known.

Should any member object, the Inst. Officer should call for the minutes of the election, and after ascertaining from them as to the legality of the election, he should declare the objection overruled. He should then proceed with the installation. Should any irregularity appear to jus-

*If it be the G. Patron, she will address him as Most, (if A. G. Patron, as Right) Worthy Grand Patron.

tify the objection, the installation of such person or persons must be deferred.

If there is no objection, the Inst. Officer will proceed. The Chapter (or, the audience) is called up.

Inst. Officer (addressing the Officers). Each of you will place the right hand upon the left breast, say I, pronounce your name in full, and repeat after me: do solemnly and sincerely promise, in presence of these witnesses, and of Almighty God, that I will, to the best of my ability, faithfully and impartially perform the duties of the office for which I have been selected. That I will conform to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, and the By-Laws of ———— Chapter, No. ——.

The Chapter is seated. The Officers should be seated together, convenient for presentation.

WORTHY MATRON.

Inst. Officer. Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, present the Worthy Matron-elect.

The Marshal and the Assistant Marshal conduct the Matron-elect east of the Altar. The Marshal will stand at the left and the Assistant Marshal at the right of the Matron-elect.

Marshal. Worthy Patron, I have the great pleasure of presenting Sister ————, who has been elected the Matron of this Chapter for the ensuing year. Our Sister is not unmind-

ful of the responsibility that rests upon her in the acceptance of this trust; nevertheless, she is willing to assume it in the hope that, by the aid of her Sisters and Brothers and through the favor of God, she will be enabled properly to fulfil the duties of the office, and that she will not prove unworthy of the honor that has been conferred upon her.

Inst. Officer. Sister ————, before proceeding with your investiture, it is necessary that you signify your assent to those Regulations of the Order, upon the strict observance of which the stability and success of our organization depends.

Do you admit that the Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star is the basis of the Adoptive Rite, and that the name, character and mode of recognition of the Order are unchangeable?

Ans. I do.

Do you admit that a belief in the existence of a Supreme Being is absolutely necessary to membership in the Order?

Ans. I do.

Do you promise to protect and obey the laws and Regulations of the Grand Chapter, and to sustain the edicts of the Grand Matron, and to permit no violation of them by the members of your Chapter?

Ans. I do.

Do you agree that the ceremonies of Initiation can in no case be conferred, unless a Master Mason, who is a member of this Order, and in good standing in his Lodge, presides?

Ans. I do.

Do you admit that no new Chapter shall be formed without permission of the Grand Chapter or Grand Matron, and that no countenance shall be given to any illegally formed Chapter, its members, or persons initiated therein?

Ans. I do.

Do you agree that no visitor shall be received into your Chapter without due examination or certification, nor when such visitor is likely to disturb the peace and harmony thereof?

Ans. I do.

Do you agree that no person can be regularly initiated in, or admitted into membership of a Chapter, without previous notice, and proper investigation as to character?

Ans. I do.

Do you agree to promote the welfare of this Order, and to use your utmost endeavors to make yourself useful and your station honorable, by practicing daily the principles contained in the Covenant of Adoption?

Ans. I do.

Inst. Officer. Members of ———— Chapter, No. ——, will rise.

Members are called up.

You have heard the sacred pledges of your Worthy Matron-elect. Will you give her your earnest and loyal support during the coming year?

After response, the Chapter is seated.

Inst. Officer. My Sister, the office of Matron is one of much labor, care and anxiety, and requires the utmost attention and forbearance.

The members will naturally look to you, not only for counsel in the many and varied matters that come before the Chapter, but for inspiration in their work and in their lives; also, for advice and sympathy in their troubles and sorrows. It should be your constant study, therefore, how best to cultivate all the social virtues. Should you find jealousy, hatred, malice or even the spirit that frets, in your heart, then you are not great. These and greatness sleep not in the same soul. The glory of greatness is in unselfish service.

You should be cautious in your behavior and courteous to the members. You should be an example of good order and punctuality, for in that manner only can you expect the observance of them from others. Within the Chapter it will be your duty to see: that its stated meetings are held, and call meetings whenever the good of the Chapter demands it; that each of your subordinates fills her station

with usefulness and honor; that the Rules, By-Laws and Regulations are implicitly observed; that the funds, records, Rituals and paraphernalia of the Chapter are properly preserved; that the cry of the widow and orphan shall never be heard in vain within the sphere of operations assumed by this Chapter, and that it fails in nothing for which it is established.

All this lies in your power to do, by the zealous exercise of your prerogatives as Worthy Matron, to which office your associate members have been pleased to elect you.

Sister Marshal, invest our Sister with the emblem of her office.

All emblems placed upon left side.

When she has done so, the Inst. Officer continues:

Your emblem, the Gavel within the Star, the symbol of highest authority, will admonish you, that upon your judgment and leadership rests the prosperity of this Chapter, and, in a great measure, the advancement of our Order in this place.

Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, conduct the Worthy Matron to the East.

The Marshal and Assistant Marshal conduct the Matron to the East; when she reaches the foot of the dais the Inst. Officer descends to meet her, takes her by the right hand and escorts her to a seat at the right side of the Matron's chair. As she is being conducted to the East an appropriate ode may be sung. As she stands facing

the Chapter, the Inst. Officer calls up the Chapter, and says:

Inst. Officer. Worthy Matron, behold your Sisters and Brothers! Sisters and Brothers, behold your Worthy Matron! Salute her with the *Grand Honor Sign.

The Chapter is seated. The Matron then takes the seat on the dais to the right of the Matron's station.

WORTHY PATRON.

Inst. Officer. Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, present the Patron-elect.

Marshal. Worthy Patron, I have the great pleasure of presenting Brother ————, elected the Patron of this Chapter for the ensuing year. Our Brother is fully aware of the responsibility he is assuming in the acceptance of this important position; nevertheless, he is willing to undertake the charge in the belief that, with the aid and forbearance of the Sisters and Brethren, he will not fail in the performance of his duty, but will prove that the confidence reposed in him has not been misplaced.

Inst. Officer. Brother ————, you have been elected by the members of this Chapter to occupy the most exalted position in their power

* If a public Installation, the members will use the Public Sign of Salutation (see Esoteric Key, page 3).

to bestow upon a Brother. It is a just compliment to your zeal and worth, and I offer you my sincere congratulations.

Your specific duties are to preside during the conferring of degrees, the election and installation of officers, and at such other times as required by the Matron; to see that the officers are proficient in their work, to obligate Master Masons visiting a Chapter for the first time, to have a general supervision over the affairs of the Chapter, and to act as the constitutional adviser of the Matron. To do this properly, you will perceive that it will be necessary for you to make yourself thoroughly familiar with the laws and Regulations of the Order, and by your example stimulate others to the faithful performance of every duty. Be kind, courteous and obliging. Cultivate a spirit of forbearance with others, and a high consideration for their feelings. Thus will you merit the honor conferred upon you, and prove yourself to be a Brother in whom we may confide.

Sister Marshal, invest our Brother with the emblem of his office.

When this has been done, the Inst. Officer continues:

Your emblem, the Square and Compasses within the Star, will remind you of your membership in the Masonic Fraternity and of your

relationship to the Order of the Eastern Star.

Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, conduct the Worthy Patron to his station, at the left of the Matron's station.

The Chapter is called up. When this has been done, the Inst. Officer continues:

Worthy Patron, behold your Sisters and Brothers! Sisters and Brothers, behold your Worthy Patron! Salute him with the Grand Honor Sign* (or, the Public Sign of Salutation).

The Chapter is seated.

ASSOCIATE MATRON.

Inst. Officer. Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, present the Associate Matron-elect.

Marshal. Worthy Patron, I have the pleasure of presenting Sister ————, who has been elected Associate Matron of this Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. My Sister, the duties of your position are embodied in the name of your office. You are the Assistant to the Matron in all branches of her responsible charge, and in her absence will succeed to all her privileges and responsibilities. It is necessary, therefore, that you should make yourself familiar with the duties of that office, so that you may fill it with credit to yourself and honor to your Chapter.

*See note about saluting the Matron, page 239.

Sister Marshal, invest our Sister with the emblem of her office.

Your emblem, the refulgent Sun within the Star, a symbol of light and glory, will admonish you to strive by your labors to add to the glory of our Order.

Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, conduct the Associate Matron to her station in the West.

TREASURER.

Inst. Officer. Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, present the Treasurer-elect.

Marshal. Worthy Patron, I have the pleasure of presenting Sister (or, Brother) ———, who has been elected Treasurer of this Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. My Sister (or, Brother), the proper preservation and disbursement of our funds demand the utmost honesty and care upon the part of the Treasurer. The money placed in your hands may be required for the relief of the widow and the orphan who may, at the most unexpected moment, be sent to us as objects of our bounty.

Sister Marshal, invest our Sister (or, Brother), with the emblem of her (or, his) office.

Your emblem, the Cross-keys within the Star, a symbol of security, will admonish you to maintain the strictest fidelity in the preser-

vation and the disbursement of the funds intrusted to your keeping.

Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, conduct the Treasurer to her station.

SECRETARY.

Inst. Officer. Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, present the Secretary-elect.

Marshal. Worthy Patron, I have the pleasure of presenting Sister (or, Brother) ———, who has been elected Secretary of this Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. My Sister (or, Brother), yours is an onerous and most responsible charge. It is your duty to observe carefully the proceedings of the Chapter, to record accurately all that is vital to it, to collect all monies due the Chapter and to pay the same to the Treasurer, and to make out and forward to the Grand Secretary the necessary returns as required by the Constitution. As you come in contact with the members of the Chapter you are to be courteous to all. Much of the success of the Chapter depends upon the manner in which your duties are performed. Be faithful, therefore, in fulfilling them.

Sister Marshal, invest our Sister (or, Brother), with the emblem of her (or his) office.

Your emblem, the Cross-pens within the Star, a symbol of record, will admonish you to

be faithful to your trust, that the good deeds and expressions of your associates may not go unrecorded.

Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, conduct the Secretary to her (or, his) station.

CONDUCTRESS AND ASSOCIATE.

Inst. Officer. Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, present the Conductress-elect and the Associate Conductress-elect.

Marshal. Worthy Patron, I have the pleasure of presenting Sister ————, who has been elected Conductress, and Sister ————, who has been elected Associate Conductress of this Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. My Sisters, upon you devolve the duty of preparing and conducting through the ceremonies those who seek the privileges of our Order. The candidate enters our Chapter with a mind open to receive a favorable impression of our mysteries and our aims. If you present these matters with sisterly courtesy and dignity, the candidate will acquire a regard for a system that aims so high and promises so much.

Sister Marshal, invest each Sister with her emblem of office.

Sister Conductress, your emblem, the Scroll and Baton within the Star, a symbol of prepared plans and their fulfilment, will admonish

you that the first impressions made upon a candidate are permanent and that it depends greatly upon the manner in which a candidate is received and conducted through the Labyrinth of our Rite, whether the impressions are for the greatest good.

Sister Associate Conductress, your emblem, the Baton within the Star, a symbol of direction, will admonish you that good discipline is essential to the success of our Order.

Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, escort the Conductress and Associate Conductress to their respective stations.

CHAPLAIN.

Inst. Officer. Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, present the Chaplain-appointed.

Marshal. Worthy Patron, I have the pleasure of presenting Sister (or, Brother) ———, who has been appointed Chaplain of this Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. Sister (or, Brother) ———, the duty assigned to you is to lead the Chapter in its devotions to Deity. It is a sacred and solemn duty and one that should be performed with that reverential awe that is due from the creature to its Creator. "Who shall ascend unto the hill of the Lord, and who shall stand in His holy place? He that hath a pure heart and clean hands." May our Heavenly Father

keep you pure and give you grace rightly to approach His throne.

Sister Marshal, invest our Sister (or, Brother) with the emblem of her (or, his) office.

Your emblem, the open Bible within the Star, a symbol of the revealed will of God, will admonish you to study its sacred pages and to practice its ennobling precepts.

Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, conduct the Chaplain to her (or, his) station, on the floor, in the East, to the right and in front of the Matron.

MARSHAL.

Inst. Officer. Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, present the Marshal-appointed.

Marshal. Worthy Patron, I have the pleasure of presenting Sister (or, Brother) ———, who has been appointed Marshal of this Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. Order is Heaven's first law, and it is your duty to assist in securing that order which will enhance the beauty of the work and preserve the dignity of the Chapter. You are to answer the roll call of Officers, to arrange and to conduct all processions of the Chapter, see that the Chapter room is properly prepared for the meetings, to greet visitors and provide them with seats, and to place un-

obligated visiting brethren in position. Promptness and care are necessary properly to discharge these duties.

Sister Marshal, invest our Sister (or, Brother) with the emblem of his (or, her) office.

Your emblem, the Cross-batons within the Star, a symbol of discipline and order, will admonish you to be diligent in the discharge of your duties.

Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, conduct the Marshal to his (or, her) station, on the floor in the East, to the left and in front of the Patron.

HISTORIAN.

Inst. Officer. Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, present the Historian-appointed.

Marshal. Worthy Patron, I have the pleasure of presenting Sister (or, Brother) ———, who has been appointed Historian of this Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. It may appear to you that but little can be noted of interest outside of the records of the Secretary, still I can assure you that every day has its history, and that it is your duty to compile and to record and annually to report such current events as may be of service and interest to this Chapter.

Sister Marshal, invest our Sister (or, Brother) with the emblem of her (or, his) office.

Your emblem, an open Book and Pen within the Star, a symbol of intelligence, will admonish you to be diligent in recording and presenting facts that merit recognition and perpetuation.

Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, conduct the Historian to her (or, his) station, on the floor to the left and in front of the Associate Matron.

ORGANIST.

Inst. Officer. Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, present the Organist-appointed.

Marshal. Worthy Patron, I have the pleasure of presenting Sister (or, Brother) ———, who has been appointed Organist of this Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. My Sister (or, Brother), music is a concourse of sweet sounds, a language far more eloquent than words, touching the tenderest emotions of the heart, soothing to peaceful slumbers, or exciting to deeds of valor. In the ceremonies of our Order music plays a most important part. It adds a charm to every form and enhances the beauty of every ceremony. May the tones of your vocalization, and the strains that you shall bring from the very soul of the Organ (or, Piano), fill the hearts of the members of this Chapter with most delightful sensations and add to the

beauty and impressiveness of the work.* It is all important that you be prompt and regular in your attendance, that you may direct the musical exercises of the Chapter.

Sister Marshal, invest our Sister (or, Brother) with the emblem of her (or, his) office.

Your emblem, the Harp within the Star, a symbol of harmony, will admonish you to promote harmony in the Chapter.

Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, conduct the Organist to her (or, his) station.

WARDER AND SENTINEL.

Inst. Officer. Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, present the Warder and the Sentinel-appointed.

Marshal. Worthy Patron, I have the pleasure of presenting Sister ————, appointed Warder, and Brother† ————, appointed Sentinel of this Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. My Sister and Brother, you are respectively the Inner and the Outer Guards of the Chapter. Upon you, therefore, we rely to preserve that secrecy which is essential to our proceedings, and to see that the solemnity of our ceremonies is not interrupted by untimely alarms.

*Appropriate music, as suggested by the words, may be rendered.

†If both are Sisters, the language must be changed accordingly.

Sister Marshal, invest our Sister and our Brother with the emblem of office.

Sister Warder, your emblem, the Dove within the Star, a symbol of peace, will admonish you to assist in maintaining peace.

Brother Sentinel, your emblem, the Cross-swords within the Star, a symbol of protection, will admonish you that upon your watchful care depends our security against interruption.

Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, conduct the Warder and the Sentinel to their respective stations.

STAR OFFICERS.

Inst. Officer. Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, present the Sisters appointed to represent the rays of the five points of our emblematic Star.

Marshal. Worthy Patron, I have the pleasure of presenting for installation, in one group, the Sisters appointed to represent the rays of the five points of the Star; Sister ————, the blue ray of Adah; Sister ————, the yellow ray of Ruth; Sister ————, the white ray of Esther; Sister ————, the green ray of Martha; and Sister ————, the red ray of Electa.

Inst. Officer. My Sisters, you form the floral center of this Chapter, and the various colors which you represent, illuminated by that great

light, the Holy Scriptures, teach us the lessons of fidelity, loyalty, courage, faith and beneficence.

To you is assigned the duty of informing the candidate of those sublime virtues, which were illustrated in the lives of the characters you represent. How important, then, that in your official duties you should surround, with an air of beauty and solemnity, all that you have to say and to do, so that from you may emanate a light that will give joy to every one who attends our meetings.

Sister Marshal, invest each Sister with her emblem of office, and with the Assistant Marshal, conduct them to their stations, where they will remain standing.

After investiture and conducting, beginning with "Adah," the Marshal and the Assistant Marshal return to their station, west of the Altar. The Inst. Officer then continues:

Inst. Officer. Sister Adah, your emblem, the Sword and Veil, united, a symbol of authority and modesty, will remind you of the filial devotion and integrity of "Adah," Jephthah's daughter.

Sister Ruth, your emblem, the Sheaf, a symbol of plenty, will remind you that constancy, loyalty and industry please God, and may procure a rich reward.

Sister Esther, your emblem, the Crown and Scepter, united, a symbol of royalty, will re-

mind you that justice, courage and fidelity are most noble virtues.

Sister Martha, your emblem, the Broken Column, a symbol of the uncertainty of human life, will remind you that an abiding faith is pleasing in the sight of God and insures eternal life.

Sister Electa, your emblem, the Cup, a symbol of hospitality, will remind you of the beneficence, fortitude and steadfastness of "Electa."

Such, my Sisters, are the lessons inculcated by your several emblems of office.

The truly sublime virtues exemplified in the lives of those you represent are worthy of imitation, and I hope that as you relate and impress these virtues in the Chapter, so you will practice them out of it. Thus you will not only honor the stations to which you have been appointed, but will, also, lay up for yourselves Heavenly treasures that shall enrich your lives.

The "Star Points" will then be seated (Gavel*), and the Inst. Officer will continue:

[At this time the Inst. Officer may request the Sisters who have been appointed members of the Special Floral Staff (if such has been appointed), to assemble on the North (or, if there is not room on the North, then on the South) side of the room, near the East, to be presented, receive Staff-badges, and to be escorted to seats. These seats may temporarily be beside the Officers, to which they are auxiliary; but ordinarily, the auxiliary to the "Star Points" would be in the way, and also

subvert the force and the meaning of the "Points" themselves, if seated beside the Officers representing such "Points"; they should be seated together, elsewhere; especially, inasmuch as, they being "Special," it is assumed that they will not always do the Floral-work of the "Points."]

The Color Bearer of the Chapter (if such has been appointed), may then be invited to take position near the American Flag, in the East; there be handed the Flag by the A. Marshal, and be escorted by the Marshal and the A. Marshal, to West of the Altar, where the Flag may be "presented" (held up and out towards the Chapter-emblem in the East) for salute; the Chapter having been called up, just before the Color Bearer reached the west of the Altar, all will salute the Flag, with the Patron, as it is "presented." The Color Bearer and "escort" will then pass towards the East on the opposite side of the room from that just traversed, to the West, by them, and the Flag be placed in its position, by the Color Bearer. The Chapter will then be seated.

Inst. Officer. The Sisters appointed as the Special Floral Staff may assemble on the North (*or,* South) side of the room, near the East, to receive the Staff-badges, and to be conducted to seats.

Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, supervise this procedure.

This having been done:

Inst. Officer. The Color Bearer may take position near the Flag, to receive, and to "present" it.

Brother Assistant Marshal, convey the Flag to the Color Bearer.

Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal, escort

the Color Bearer during the presentation march. (At end of March; Gavel.*)

TRUSTEE OR TRUSTEES.

Inst. Officer. Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal (or, one only, if the other is a Trustee-elect), present the Trustee-(or, Trustees-) elect.

Marshal (or, Assistant). Worthy Patron, I have the pleasure of presenting Sister (or, Sisters, or, Brother, or, Brothers, or, both) ——, who has (or, have) been elected a Trustee (or, Trustees) of this Chapter for the ensuing year (or, for two or three years, respectively).

Inst. Officer. My Sister (or, Sisters, or, Brother, or, Brothers, or, both). The property and securities of the Chapter will be in your charge, and that of your associates, and under your joint control and disposition as the Chapter may direct. Yours is a position of trust and responsibility, and the Chapter has selected you, with the expectation and belief that you will exercise as great care over its property and funds as you would over your own.

Sister Marshal, invest our Sister (or, Sisters, or, Brother, or, Brothers) with the emblem of office.

Your emblem, Cross-Spears within the Star, a symbol of care and protection, will admonish you faithfully to guard your trust.

Sister Marshal and Assistant Marshal (or, one only, if the other is a Trustee), conduct

the Trustee (or, Trustees), to her (or, his) station (or, to their respective stations).

For Trustee's stations see pages 10 and 12 of Part I. The Marshal and Assistant Marshal then take convenient seats until their services are required. The other Officers having been installed, the Inst. Officer will now proceed to complete the installation of the Matron.

Inst. Officer. Worthy Matron, the Officers of your Chapter have been installed into their respective stations for the ensuing year. You will now receive in charge the Charter, which you will carefully preserve. In no case should it ever be out of your immediate control, since it is the authority by which this Chapter is established. When your term of office expires, you will transmit it to your successor.

I now place in your hands the Constitution of the Grand Chapter of the State, and the By-Laws of this Chapter. You are to see that these are carefully and promptly obeyed.

The Bible, the book which reveals the duties that the Grand Patron on High requires us to perform, has God for its author, truth for its substance and the salvation of mankind for its end. Open upon the Altar, it is confided to your care.

"This book of the Law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein; for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

I now present you with this Gavel. As no member may properly disobey it, I confidently hope that you will never use it in an arbitrary or dictatorial manner, but ever remember that justice should be tempered with mercy and that we should always be abounding in love.

You will now assume your station as Worthy Matron of this Chapter.

The W. Matron then assumes the official chair of her office. An appropriate ode may be sung, at the conclusion of which the Inst. Officer continues.

Inst. Officer. Sisters and Brothers of —— —— Chapter, No. ——, such is the nature of all organizations, that, as some must rule and govern, so others must submit and obey.

The Officers whom you have selected to preside over your deliberations during the ensuing year, are, we believe, sufficiently conversant with the rules of propriety to avoid exceeding the powers with which you have invested them.

A leading object of our institution is to inculcate sound morality, as founded upon the great moral principle set forth in the sacred volume, ever found upon our Altar, which we receive as the rule and guide of our faith and practice.

It should be constantly borne in mind that the respectability and usefulness of a Chapter does not consist in the number, but in the character of its members. The uninitiated judge of our institution by the conduct of its individual members. You should be as care-

ful of the reputation of your Chapter as of that of your family; and as you would admit none to the society of the family whose character is bad, so should you carefully exclude such from the Chapter.

All things are now ready for you to enter upon the proceedings of a new year. But we know not what is before us. No one can affirm that another year, or even a single day, will be committed to our trust. Therefore, if we have been faithful heretofore, let us redouble our exertions for the future.

Let us be forbearing and forgiving one toward another. Let us return kindness for hostility. Let us preserve our lips from slander. It were better that the tongue cleave to the roof of the mouth and we appear dumb, than that we cherish unkind thoughts of another and utter malicious slander or retail ruinous truths. When unable to praise, silence is golden. "Think ere you speak; and speak not all you think."

Let us ever be governed, in words and deeds, by the golden rule, "That whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you, do ye even so unto them." Thus may we confidently hope for a useful and happy life, and at its close, for a triumphant entrance into the city of the living God.

Sister Marshal, now proclaim in the West and in the East, that the Officers of ———— Chapter, No. ——, have been regularly elect-

ed,** appointed** and (**with the exception of ——) installed, for the ensuing year.

Marshal. In the name of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, and by order of Brother ————, Worthy Patron (or, Acting Worthy Patron), I proclaim the Officers of ———— Chapter, No. ——, Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, regularly elected,** appointed** and (**with the exception of ——) installed, for the ensuing year.

The Marshal, escorted by the Assistant Marshal, repairs to the West (does not call up Chapter), and, standing upon the platform of the A. Matron, makes the above announcement, after which she proclaims: "THIS FROM THE WEST" and with the GAVEL**. Under the same escort she then approaches to the foot of the dais in the East, where she is received by the Inst. Officer and takes position behind the W. Matron's pedestal. The Inst. Officer then hands her the gavel, she calls up the Chapter, and makes the previous announcement, after which she proclaims, "THIS FROM THE EAST," and with the GAVEL** establishes the proclamation and seats the Chapter.

The Marshal then retires from the East, being received at the foot of the dais by the Assistant Marshal who escorts her to their former position west of the Altar. They are then thanked by the Inst. Officer for their services and take seats among the members, or, if they are continued in offices, they repair to their respective stations. The Inst. Officer may then express his congratulations and good wishes. He will then retire from his functions.

**Any Officer not elected, appointed, or installed, must be mentioned as an exception.

Public Ceremonies.

PUBLIC CEREMONIES.

The following ceremonies will be observed in opening a Chapter, if others than members of the Order are present, such as publicly installing Officers, dedicating halls, etc. The room should be arranged as for a stated meeting. At the hour appointed for opening, the Officers, except the Patron and A. Cond., will assemble in the ante-room.

If a secret Opening or Closing (or, both) is desired, the Chapter will be opened or closed, or both, in due form, in the ante-room or the Preparation Room, for the purpose of opening or closing exercises only, or both, for the receipt of applications for membership, for works of charity and benevolence, but not for the transaction of any other business."* In the secret opening the Matron will announce, at the proper time, a recess and an adjournment to the room in which the public exercises are to be held. Here the opening exercises may be held in the regular public way, as if there had been no secret opening exercises; or, after the secret opening, the Officers may take their stations upon the sounding of the Matron's gavel in the East. The Matron will deliver her address of welcome and carry out the further exercises of the Public Ceremony. At the conclusion of the public exercises, the Chapter may reconvene in the room in which it had convened, being called to order by the Matron. The Chapter will be closed in the usual way, publicly. When the Ceremony is public, the minutes of the whole occasion should be carefully kept, by the Secretary of the Chapter, and read and approved, on that occasion, or at the next regular meeting of the Chapter.* When the Officers have assembled in the ante-room for

*Regulated by most recent directions of the Grand Chapter.

formal entrance into the room in which the public exercises are to be held, the Patron will say:

Patron. Sister Associate Conductress, inform the Worthy Matron that the Assembly is ready to receive her and the other Officers of the Chapter, and await her pleasure.

A. Cond. (goes to and opens the door). Worthy Matron, the Worthy Patron directs me to inform you that the Assembly is ready to receive you and the other Officers of the Chapter, and awaits your pleasure.

Matron. Inform the Worthy Patron that we are ready to enter.

A. Cond. (closes the door). Worthy Patron, the Worthy Matron and her Associate Officers are ready to enter.

Patron. Admit them.

As they enter, the Assembly is called up. Music may be rendered. A salute to the Flag may be given. When the lines are in position, the salute to the Patron, will be the Public Sign of Salutation. The W. Patron will say:

Patron. I am pleased to welcome you and the other Officers of this Chapter upon this auspicious occasion. You see about you the members of your Chapter and some of their friends who have assembled to enjoy a season of pleasant intercourse. We hope that all will profit by the exercises of the evening, and be led to say, "It was good for us to be here."

Patron. Sisters Conductress and Associate

Conductress, escort the Worthy Matron to her station.

This is done as at the regular opening of the Chapter. The Matron will say:

Matron. The Officers will assume their respective places.

The Chapter is seated.

Matron. Sisters, Brothers, and friends, on behalf of ———— Chapter, No. ——, I bid you a cordial welcome. We have assembled at this time for the purpose of installing the Officers of this Chapter (or, state any other purpose). By the rules of the Order, this service is permitted to be performed in public, and it is our hope that the exercises may be both pleasing and interesting to all.

Matron. Sister Associate Matron, what number of Officers constitute a Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, and what titles do they bear?

The A. Matron will rise and remain standing during the opening exercises and, as each Officer is named by her, he or she will rise in his or her place and remain standing.

A. Matron. A complete Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star may have twenty-one Officers, and a Special Floral Staff. The Officers' titles are: Worthy Matron, Worthy Patron, Associate Matron, Treasurer, Secretary, Conductress, Associate Conductress, Chaplain, Marshal, Historian, Organist, Warder, Sentinel,

Adah, Ruth, Esther, Martha and Electa and three Trustees.

Matron. What are their duties?

A. Matron. To conduct the affairs of the Chapter; to inculcate the beautiful doctrines taught in the Ritual, and to display, in their intercourse with one another and before the world, the virtues of the five heroines of the Order.

Matron. How may we hope to accomplish this?

A. Matron. By studying the inspired word of God, from which sacred source the lessons of the Order are derived, and by seeking the aid of His Divine Spirit.

Matron. You have answered well, my Sister. Before we enter upon the exercises that are before us, let us ask our Heavenly Father's blessing.

Matron. Sister (or, Brother) Chaplain, will you lead our devotions.

The Chapter is called up. The Chaplain goes to the west of the Altar, faces the East and offers the following or other appropriate prayer:

PRAYER.

Chaplain. Thou, O God, who desirest to rule in the hearts of men, look down upon us at

this time, and bless us. Impress us with the necessity of our reliance upon Thee. We thank Thee for the privilege of meeting under such pleasant circumstances, and in this social manner. Grant that our coming together may be fraught with good to all of us.

May our Order, and the Chapter which meets in this place, be profited by the exercises on this occasion. May peace and harmony, everywhere prevail. May true friendship, and sisterly and brotherly love abound. May we show forth, in our lives, the beautiful lessons here taught; so that those who are not of our household may be impressed with the sincerity of our purpose. All praise shall be Thine. Amen!

All respond, Amen.
Chaplain returns to her (or, his) station.

Matron. Let us unite in singing our opening ode.

After the singing the Worthy Matron will say:

Matron. Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, open the Holy Bible upon the Altar.

The Cond. and A. Cond. approach the Altar as in the Chapter work, open the Bible, and salute the open book by placing the right hand upon the left breast and making a reverential bow, after which they return to their places. The Chapter is seated.

Matron. The ceremonies of opening this public meeting of ———— Chapter, No. ——, of the Order of the Eastern Star, are now complete, and I respectfully invite your attention to the exercises that are to follow.

The Matron will then proceed to carry out the program arranged for the occasion. If it is Installation of Officers, she will instruct the Cond. to conduct the Inst. Officer to the East. Before introducing him, she may invite the Patron to make very short farewell remarks to the Officers and members, and then make such herself. She will then call up the Assembly, introduce the Inst. Officer, have him saluted with the Public Sign of Salutation, and present him with the gavel. He will then seat the Assembly. (For the further exercises, see Installation of Officers, or other prescribed work.)

Installation of Grand Officers.

INSTALLATION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

All Officers of the Grand Chapter must be installed before entering upon the discharge of their duties. The ceremonies must be conducted by a Present or Past Grand Patron. The positions will be occupied by the retiring Officers, who will vacate them as their successors are installed. A Sister, the retiring Grand Matron preferred, will act as Grand Marshal, assisted by the Grand Marshal of the Grand Chapter, or by some Brother appointed by the Inst. Officer, for that purpose. The jewels will be collected and placed at the Altar.

When everything is in readiness the Inst. Officer will give with the gavel* and proceed as follows:

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present, at the Altar, the Officers elected and appointed.

The G. Marshal and the A. G. Marshal will arrange the Officers to be installed in a semi-circle west of the Altar, facing the East, the G. Matron and the G. Patron within the semi-circle.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, the Grand Officers, elected and appointed, are in order.

Inst. Officer. Sisters and Brothers, before proceeding with the ceremonies of Installation, let us invoke the Divine blessing. Brother Grand Chaplain, lead us in prayer.

The Grand Chapter is called up. The G. Chap-

lain will offer the following or other appropriate prayer:

PRAYER.

G. Chaplain. Our Heavenly Father, we come before Thee at this time to ask thy blessing upon these Sisters and Brothers, who are about to be set apart as Officers in this Grand Chapter. Endue them with wisdom and strength faithfully to discharge the duties which will devolve upon them. Bless her whom the members have elected to the responsible position of Grand Matron, with grace and wisdom from on High, that she may so direct the affairs of this Grand Chapter that our Order may be built up and its good work made manifest. May her health be preserved and may her strength be sufficient for the work she has to do. Grant that she may have the hearty and earnest support of her Associate Grand Officers. Bless our Order throughout the world. May peace abound among the members and prosperity crown our labors. To Thy name will we ascribe all honor and glory. Amen.

All respond, Amen.
Chaplain returns to station.
An appropriate song may be sung.
The Grand Chapter is seated.

Inst. Officer. Sisters and Brothers, you behold those who have been selected as Officers to serve you for the ensuing year. If any member of this Grand Chapter knows of any just or sufficient reason why any of these

should not be installed, let the objection now be made known.

If an objection is made, see procedure in such a case on page 233 Installation of Officers.

No objection being made, the Inst. Officer proceeds. The Grand Chapter is called up.

Inst. Officer. Each of you will place the right hand upon the left breast, say I, pronounce your name in full, and repeat after me, do solemnly and sincerely pledge my honor, in presence of this Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, and in presence of Almighty God, that I will, to the best of my ability, faithfully and impartially perform the duties of the office for which I have been selected; that I will conform to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of this Grand Chapter, and in every way in my power assist in extending the usefulness of the Order.

The Grand Chapter is seated, the Officers together, convenient for presentation.

GRAND MATRON.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Grand Matron-elect.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Sister ————, who has been elected Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. My Sister, I most heartily congratulate you upon your election to this, the most exalted and important office within the gift of your associates. The confidence thus displayed in you by the members of this Grand Chapter, speaks loudly of the esteem in which you are held, and should fill you with a determination so to act as to merit their highest regard. You must be aware of the solemn responsibilities of the office you are about to assume, and of the many cares and perplexities which surround it. These difficulties will, I am sure, be greatly lessened by the affectionate sympathy and active co-operation of your associates. In the affairs of this Grand Chapter, be just in your dealings, impartial in your decisions, fearless in your administration and faithful in the performance of every duty. May He who is Wisdom and Power, guide and strengthen you.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest the Most Worthy Grand Matron with the jewel of her office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal, conduct her to her station in the East.

As the G. Matron is being conducted to the East an appropriate ode may be sung. When she reaches the foot of the dais the Inst. Officer descends, takes her by the right hand and escorts her to her station. At the conclusion of the music and while she is standing facing the Grand Chapter, the Inst. Officer will say:

Inst. Officer. I have the pleasure of presenting to you this emblem of authority (*hands her the gavel*), which I trust will never be sounded in vain. It is to be used firmly, but never in an arbitrary or unjust manner. Sounded thus, the members of this Grand Chapter will yield willing obedience to its every command. I welcome you to the East of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, and render this, the first act of homage due to you as Grand Matron.

Inst. Officer bows with hands crossed on his breast. The Grand Chapter is called up.

Inst. Officer. I now salute and proclaim you Most Worthy Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, for the ensuing year. Sisters and Brothers, behold your Most Worthy Grand Matron! Most Worthy Grand Matron, behold your Sisters and Brothers! Salute her with the Grand Honor Sign (or, if public, the Public Sign of Salutation).

All salute the G. Matron.
The Grand Chapter is seated.

GRAND PATRON.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Grand Patron-elect.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Brother ———,

who has been elected Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. Brother ————, the office to which you have been elected is one of dignity and importance. You are the constitutional adviser of the Grand Matron, and as such you are to counsel and assist her in every way in your power to promote the peace, harmony and welfare of this Grand Chapter. You are to preside during the election and installation of Officers, and at such other times as the Grand Matron may direct. In the absence of the Grand Matron from the meetings of the Grand Chapter, or from the limits of its jurisdiction, you are invested by the Constitution with her powers, and are to exercise her prerogatives. In view of such emergencies, permit me to remind you of the necessity of your being prepared to fill her distinguished position with honor to yourself and profit to the Order.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest the Most Worthy Grand Patron with the jewel of his office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal conduct him to his station, in the East at the left of the Most Worthy Grand Matron.

While standing in the East, facing the members, the Grand Chapter is called up.

Inst. Officer. I now proclaim you Most Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, for the ensuing year. Sisters and Brothers, with me, salute the Most Worthy Grand Patron with the Grand Honor Sign (or, if public, the Public Sign of Salutation).

The Grand Chapter is seated.

ASSOCIATE GRAND MATRON AND ASSOCIATE GRAND PATRON.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron-elect and the Right Worthy Associate Grand Patron-elect.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Sister ————, and Brother ————, who have been elected, respectively, Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron and Right Worthy Associate Grand Patron of this Grand Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. Sister ————, you have been elected to the honorable position of Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron. Be faithful in the performance of your duties, and thereby furnish strength and support to the Grand Matron. In the absence of your superior Officers, you assume the official duties of the Grand Matron. Your fitness for the discharge of such a trust doubtless led to your election. It will

be your duty, as I believe it will be your pleasure, so to act as to merit the confidence of this Grand Chapter.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest our Sister with the jewel of her office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal conduct her to her station in the West.

Inst. Officer. Brother ————, your associates have shown their confidence in you by electing you to the honorable position of Right Worthy Associate Grand Patron. Your previous devotion to the principles of the Order, and your faithful performance of the duties devolving upon you, are sufficient guarantee that you will be a vigilant officer in whatever station you may be placed. In the absence of the Grand Patron, or upon his request, you are to assume his official duties.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest our Brother with the jewel of his office, and with the Assistant Marshal conduct him to his station, in the West, at the left of the Right Worthy Associate Grand Matron.

GRAND TREASURER.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Right Worthy Grand Treasurer-elect.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Sister (or, Brother)

————, who has been elected Right Worthy Grand Treasurer of this Grand Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. Sister (or, Brother) ————, you have been elected by your associates to the responsible office of Treasurer of this Grand Chapter. Your fidelity and strict integrity have marked you as worthy of the confidence reposed in you, and are convincing proofs that the trust will be faithfully discharged. Your duties are clearly defined in the Constitution. Be faithful in the discharge of them.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest the Right Worthy Grand Treasurer with the jewel of her (or, his) office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal conduct her (or, him) to her (or, his) station.

GRAND SECRETARY.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Right Worthy Grand Secretary-elect.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Sister ————, who has been elected Right Worthy Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. Sister (or, Brother) ————, you have been chosen by the members of this Grand Chapter to fill the office of Grand Secretary, in many respects the most important and

responsible position in this Grand Chapter. The duties of your office are clearly defined in the Constitution. Be accurate, therefore, and punctual in the fulfilment of every responsibility, that the influence of the Order may be increased and extended.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest our Sister (or, Brother), with the jewel of her (or, his) office and, with the Assistant Grand Marshal, conduct her (or, him) to her (or, his) station.

GRAND CONDUCTRESS.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Right Worthy Grand Conductress-elect.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Sister ————, who has been elected Right Worthy Grand Conductress of this Grand Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. Sister ————, you have been elected to the high and honorable position of Grand Conductress of this Grand Chapter, a distinction of which any Sister may well be proud. Upon you will devolve the duty of receiving and introducing visitors, serving as the messenger of the Grand Matron, and performing, in conjunction with the Grand Marshal, important functions in the ceremonies of the Order.

Your position, therefore, is one of value and importance, requiring zeal and promptness to insure good order in this Grand Chapter.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest the Right Worthy Grand Conductress with the jewel of her office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal, escort her to her station.

ASSOCIATE GRAND CONDUCTRESS.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress-elect.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Sister ————, who has been elected Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress of this Grand Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. Sister ————, the office of Associate Grand Conductress, to which you have been elected, is one of honor and distinction. Your past zeal and interest in the Order lead us to believe that your selection for this position was a wise one. Your duties will require your prompt attention. You will assist the Grand Conductress and the Grand Marshal in the ceremonies of the Order, and serve as the messenger of the Associate Grand Matron.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest the Right Worthy Associate Grand Conductress with the jewel of her office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal, escort her to her station.

GRAND CHAPLAINS.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Right Worthy Grand Chaplains-appointed.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Brothers (or, or, and Sister(s)) ———, ———, and ———, who have been appointed Right Worthy Grand Chaplains of this Grand Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. Brother(s) (or, or, and Sister(s) ———, ———, ———, and ———, in the discharge of your duties as Grand Chaplains, you will be required to lead the devotional exercises at the sessions of the Grand Chapter, and on other appropriate occasions. The principles and precepts of our Order, in strict accordance with the best teachings and maxims, are found in the inspired word of God. Teach us from its life-giving precepts; intercede for us with our Grand Patron on High; inspire us with lofty ideals, and comfort us with messages of Divine wisdom and truth.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest each Right Worthy Grand Chaplain with the jewel of his (or, or, and her) office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal, conduct them to their respective stations; one, at the right and in front of the Grand Matron; the others, at the right and the left, respectively, in front of the Associate Grand Conductress.

GRAND MARSHAL AND ASSOCIATE GRAND MARSHALS.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Right Worthy Grand Marshal-appointed, and the Right Worthy Associate Grand Marshals-appointed.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Brother ———, who has been appointed Right Worthy Grand Marshal of this Grand Chapter for the ensuing year, and Brothers ——— and ———, who have been appointed Right Worthy Associate Grand Marshals for the same term.

Inst. Officer. Brother ———, the duties of your office require care, promptness and activity. You are to arrange and direct all processions of the Grand Chapter; to accompany the Grand Matron on her official visits, and, with the Grand Conductress, announce her approach; you are to introduce her and her accompanying Officers, and, under her instructions, direct the Grand Officers when assembled. The jewels of the Grand Officers are in your charge, and should at all times be in readiness for use.

Brother ——— and Brother ———, you are to assist the Grand Marshal when required, and in his absence, to perform his duties.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest the Right

Worthy Grand Marshal and the Right Worthy Associate Grand Marshals with the jewel of office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal, conduct them to their stations; the Grand Marshal at the left and in front of the Grand Patron; the Associate Grand Marshals at the right and the left, respectively, in front of the Grand Conductress.

GRAND LECTURER.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Right Worthy Grand Lecturer-appointed.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Brother ———, who has been appointed Right Worthy Grand Lecturer of this Grand Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. Brother (or, Sister) ———, the office of Grand Lecturer is one of great importance. Into your hands is committed, as the Custodian of the Ritual, the preservation of the forms, the ceremonies and the impressive lessons of the Order. It is your duty to instruct the Officers and the members in their duties; to communicate light and knowledge to the uninformed; to guard the Ritual from change and innovations; to see that the standard work of this Grand Chapter is practiced in every Chapter, and to endeavor in every way to secure uniformity in the Ritualistic work. You will,

therefore, perceive the importance of being familiar with the spirit and the letter of the Ritual, as well as with every detail of the work.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest the Right Worthy Grand Lecturer with the jewel of his office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal, conduct him to his (or, her) station, in front of the Grand Matron, beside and to the left of the Grand Chaplain.

GRAND HISTORIAN.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Right Worthy Grand Historian-appointed.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Brother (or, Sister) ————, who has been appointed Grand Historian of this Grand Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. My Brother (or, Sister), history is a record of events, of human transactions, the story of human life. You are to record the epoch-making events in general, and in this State in particular; thus will you transmit to posterity the names and the records of those who have been active and prominent in our Order. The record should be concise and readable. At the annual session of the Grand Chapter, you are to present your report, for the comfort, stimulation and edification of the membership.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest the Right Worthy Grand Historian with the jewel of his (or, her) office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal, conduct him (or, her) to his (or, her) station at the left and in front of the Associate Grand Matron.

GRAND ORGANIST.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Right Worthy Grand Organist-appointed.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Sister (or, Brother) ————, who has been appointed Grand Organist of this Grand Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. Sister (or, Brother) ————, music, like flowers, occupies an important place in the Ritual of our Order. Nothing beautifies the work or adds more to its impressiveness than the sweet strains of appropriate music. In the Grand Chapter, it will be your duty to direct the music at the Opening, and at such other times as may be necessary. May the notes of your music stir the hearts of the members of this Grand Chapter, inciting them to greater achievement.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest the Right Worthy Grand Organist with the jewel of her office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal, conduct her to her station at the Organ.

GRAND WARDER.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Right Worthy Grand Warder-appointed.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Sister ————, who has been appointed Right Worthy Grand Warder of this Grand Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. Sister ———, you have been appointed Grand Warder of this Grand Chapter, a position of no little importance. It is your duty to announce the approach of visitors and strangers. You should acquire the necessary information to announce their rank and position. Be cautious and vigilant, that no improper person may gain admittance.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest the Right Worthy Grand Warder with the jewel of her office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal, conduct her to her station just inside the Entrance-door at the right of the Associate Grand Matron.

STAR OFFICERS.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Sisters who have been appointed to represent the five heroines of our Order in this Grand Chapter.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting in one group, Sister ————, who has been appointed Right Worthy Grand Adah; Sister ————, Right Worthy Grand Ruth; Sister ————, Right Worthy Grand Esther; Sister ————, Right Worthy Grand Martha; and Sister ————, Right Worthy Grand Electa, of this Grand Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. My Sisters, you have been appointed, respectively, to the offices of Grand Adah, Grand Ruth, Grand Esther, Grand Martha and Grand Electa. You are required to assist the other Grand Officers in the discharge of their duties, and to aid in the promotion of the interests of the Grand Chapter and in the success of the Order. During the opening ceremonies of the Grand Chapter, you will proclaim those sublime lessons of purity and faithfulness as exemplified by the same characters in the Subordinate Chapter.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest each Sister with her jewel of office and with the Assistant Grand Marshal, conduct them to their seats, at the "Points" of the Star.

GRAND TRUSTEES.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Grand Trustees-elect.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Sister (or, Sisters, or, Brother) [or, and] (Brother, or, Brothers), who have been elected Grand Trustees of this Grand Chapter for ———— (naming term).

Inst. Officer. Sisters and Brothers*, you have been elected Grand Trustees of this Grand Chapter. You are the custodians of its funds, paraphernalia and property. The position is one of responsibility and trust. You are to see that the funds are carefully guarded, properly invested and judiciously expended. You are to render an account to the Grand Chapter annually, or at such time as it may direct. Your past services to the Order have pointed you out as eminently qualified to fill the position. Be assiduous in the performance of your duty, that the works of charity and benevolence of the Order may be properly extended.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest each Right Worthy Grand Trustee with the jewel of office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal, conduct them to their stations; the President of the Board of Trustees at the right and in front of the Associate Grand Matron; three Grand Trustees, in front of or near the Grand Treasurer's desk, and three, in front of or near the Grand Secretary's desk.

* Change words, as above, to suit conditions.

COMMISSIONERS OF APPEALS.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present Brother ———, who has been elected Chief Commissioner of Appeals of this Grand Chapter for the ensuing year. Also, Sister (or, Sisters) ———, and ———, and Brother (or, Brothers) ———, and ———, who have been elected Commissioners of Appeals for the ensuing two years.

Inst. Officer. My Sisters and Brothers, upon you devolves the great responsibility of deciding questions of difference that may arise between members of the Order. The preservation of peace and harmony is the most important matter that can be presented to any Chapter. Upon it depend the prosperity and good name of the Order, and the usefulness and happiness of its individual members. You must decide all questions with impartiality, that no injustice be done to any one. Your position is a trying and a difficult one, requiring the exercise of your best ability. You will, therefore, give time to the careful consideration of every matter that may be brought to your attention, and in everything you are to "judge with candor, admonish with friendship, and reprehend with justice."

Sister Grand Marshal, invest each Right Worthy Commissioner of Appeals with the

jewel of office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal conduct the Right Worthy Chief Commissioner of Appeals to his station, in front of the Grand Patron, beside and to the right of the Grand Marshal, and the Right Worthy Commissioners of Appeals to their respective stations.

The stations for Commissioners of Appeals should be two in front of or near the G. Treasurer's desk; two in front of or near the G. Secretary's desk.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MATRONS.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Right Worthy District Deputy Grand Matrons-appointed.*

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Sister ————, of the ———— Eastern Star District, Sister ————, of the ———— Eastern Star District (etc., through the list of those present to be installed) (or, the Sisters), who have been appointed Right Worthy District Deputy Grand Matrons of their respective Eastern Star Districts, in the State of New York, for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. My Sisters, I congratulate you on being appointed as the direct representatives of our Most Worthy Grand

*The G. Secretary may read the list, checking the responses.

Matron for your respective Districts. It will be your duty to visit officially every Chapter in your District, at a stated or special meeting thereof, at least once during your term of office. You are to preside in each Chapter upon the occasion of such official visit; examine the books and records, and see that they are properly kept; point out any errors you may discover in the manner of conducting the business; discharge all the duties specified in the Constitution, and transact such other business as the Grand Matron may direct.

Sister Marshal, invest each Sister with the jewel of her office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal, conduct them to seats.

ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURERS.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal and Assistant Grand Marshal, present the Right Worthy Assistant Grand Lecturers-appointed.*

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Brother ———, of the ——— Eastern Star District, and Brother ———, of the ——— Eastern Star District (etc., through the list of those present to be installed) (or, the Brothers) who have been appointed Right Worthy Assistant Grand Lecturers of their respective Eastern Star Districts, in the State of New York, for the ensuing year.

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*The G. Secretary may read the list, checking the responses.

Inst. Officer. My Brothers, your office as Assistant Grand Lecturers is one of great importance. Into your hands, under the direction of the Grand Lecturer, is committed the preservation of the forms, ceremonies, and the impressive lessons of the Order. It is your individual duty to see that the Standard Work of the Grand Chapter is practiced in every Chapter in your respective Districts; you are to endeavor, in every way in your power, to secure a high degree of perfection in the Ritualistic work throughout the State. You will, therefore, recognize the importance of thoroughly acquainting yourself with every detail of the work and with the spirit and the letter of the Ritual.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest each Right Worthy Grand Lecturer with the jewel of his office and with the Assistant Grand Marshal, conduct them to seats.

GRAND SENTINEL.

Inst. Officer. Sister Grand Marshal, present the Grand Sentinel-appointed.

G. Marshal. Most Worthy Grand Patron, I have the honor of presenting Brother ———, who has been appointed Grand Sentinel of this Grand Chapter for the ensuing year.

Inst. Officer. Brother ————, you have been appointed to the responsible office of Grand Sentinel of this Grand Chapter. Your

duties require unremitting care and watchfulness, that no injury may result from the introduction of improper persons. Let not neglect or carelessness on your part cause any disturbance of the peace, harmony and security of the Grand Chapter.

Sister Grand Marshal, invest our Brother with the jewel of his office, and with the Assistant Grand Marshal, conduct him to his station just outside the Entrance-door.

All the Officers are called up.

Inst. Officer. Officers of the Grand Chapter, it has fallen to your lot to be elevated to the highest places in the gift of the Grand Chapter. On entering upon the responsible duties of your several offices, the members of this Grand Chapter expect you to devote yourselves with energy and zeal to the work allotted to you. I need not remind you of your solemn obligations. On you will depend much of our prosperity, harmony and success. May you be guided in the discharge of your duties by the spirit of the principles set forth in the sublime teachings of our Order. May the integrity of "Adah," the industry of Ruth, the fidelity of Esther, the faith of Martha and the beneficence of "Electa" be examples for your imitation, and may you feel assured that the more devoted you are to the principles of the Order, the greater will be the respect entertained for you by its members. Let it be the aim of each of you to dignify your office,

for, in so doing, you elevate the Grand Chapter, and bring honor to our Order.

The Grand Chapter is called up.

Sisters and Brothers, let us all remember that we have a personal interest, as well as a personal duty, in the welfare of our Order, and that in proportion to our energy will be our success and prosperity.

Let me exhort you in the words of the great Apostle: Do all things without murmurings and disputings; that you may be blameless and sincere, and that you may shine as lights in the world, holding forth the word of life. Let nothing be done through strife or vain-glory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem the other better than himself. Thus may we adorn and illuminate the pathway of life for those who are associated with us and for those who shall come after us.

Sister Grand Marshal, make due proclamation, in the West and in the East, that the Officers of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, have been regularly elected,* appointed* and (*with the exception of ————) installed for the ensuing year.

The G. Marshal, escorted by the A. G. Marshal, repairs to the West and standing upon the platform of the A. G. Matron, makes the above announcement, after which she proclaims: "This

*Any Officer not elected, appointed or installed, must be referred to as an exception.

from the West," and with gavel*. Under the same escort, she approaches to the foot of the dais in the East, where she is received by the Inst. Officer and takes position behind the G. Matron's pedestal. The Inst. Officer hands her the gavel, she calls up the Grand Chapter, and makes the following announcement:

In the name of God and to His Glory, and in the name of the Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, and by order of Most Worthy ————, Grand Patron, I proclaim the Officers of this Grand Chapter duly elected,** appointed** and (**with the exception of ————) installed for the ensuing year.

At the finish of the proclamation, she will say:

"This from the East," and, with gavel*, establishes the proclamation.

The G. Marshal will then say:

G. Marshal. Sisters and Brothers, unite with me in giving to the Most Worthy Grand Matron and the Most Worthy Grand Patron the Grand Honor Sign.

The G. Marshal then seats the Grand Chapter and retires from the East, being received at the foot of the dais by the A. G. Marshal, who escorts her to their former position, west of the Altar. They are then thanked by the Inst. Officer for their services and take seats among the members, or if they are continued in offices, they repair to their respective stations. The Inst. Officer may express his congratulations and good wishes. He will then retire from his functions.

** Note exceptions, if any.

Dedication of Eastern Star Hall.

DEDICATION OF EASTERN STAR HALL.

This ceremony should be performed by the Grand Matron, or by her duly authorized Deputy, appointed for that purpose, assisted by the Grand Officers. The room must be arranged as for the stated meeting of the Chapter, with the addition of an extra Chair in the West, South and North, and a pedestal or a small table in each place, on which flowers may be placed and a banner suspended, and a chair at the left of each Officer. If the ceremony is to be performed in public, the formula for "Public Ceremonies" must be used, in opening.

The ceremony may be much beautified by the use of flowers, music, and appropriate banners (about 12x18 inches), on which should be inscribed the words Peace (in blue), Faith (green), Charity (white), Hope (green), Truth (red), Virtue (blue), Wisdom (red), Love (white).

The Grand Officers will assemble in an adjoining room and form a procession in the following order:

A. G. Marshal.
A. G. Conductress.
with vessel of oil and flowers.
G. Electa.
G. Martha.
G. Esther.
G. Com. Appeals (3).
G. Chaplain (1).
G. Trustees (4).
G. Historian.
G. Treasurer.
A. G. Matron.
G. Matron.
G. Marshal.

A. G. Marshal.
G. Conductress
with vessel of wine and flowers.
G. Adah.
G. Ruth.
G. Warder.
G. Com. Appeals (2).
G. Chaplain (2).
G. Trustees (3).
G. Lecturer.
G. Secretary.
A. G. Patron
G. Patron

When all is in readiness the G. Matron will direct the G. Cond., accompanied by the G. Marshal, to inform the Matron of the Chapter that she is ready to dedicate the hall to the purposes of the Order of the Eastern Star. As the G. Cond. and G. Marshal enter, the Chapter is called up. The G. Cond. communicates the directions of the G. Matron as follows:

G. Cond. Worthy Matron, the Most Worthy Grand Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, directs me to inform you that she is ready to dedicate this hall to the purposes of the Order of the Eastern Star.

W. Matron. Sister Grand Conductress, convey to the Most Worthy Grand Matron our high appreciation of her presence at this time, and inform her that we await her pleasure.

The G. Cond. and G. Marshal salute and retire. The Chapter is seated. The G. Cond. repeats to the G. Matron the response of the Matron. The G. Matron announces to the Grand Officers:

G. Matron. The Chapter is duly convened, and is ready to receive us. Let us proceed.

The door is thrown open. The Chapter is called up. The procession as formed enters, and passing to the right and left of the Altar, brings the G. Matron and G. Patron of the center, immediately West of the Altar. All give the Public Sign of Salutation, if the ceremony is public. If private, all give the Sign of Salutation.

The Matron then says:

Matron. Most Worthy Grand Matron and Most Worthy Grand Patron, in behalf of the

members of ———— Chapter, No. ——, I bid you and those who accompany you a hearty and sincere welcome, and hope the exercises on this occasion may be pleasant and profitable. Sisters Conductress and Associate Conductress, escort the Most Worthy Grand Matron and the Most Worthy Grand Patron to the East.

This is done. The G. Matron and the G. Patron are introduced and, if the ceremony is public, the Public Sign of Salutation is given; if private, the Grand Honor Sign. The Matron hands the gavel to the G. Matron, who in accepting it will make the following or other appropriate remarks:

G. Matron. Worthy Matron and members of ———— Chapter, we thank you for the generous welcome you have extended to us. We congratulate you upon the completion of this beautiful hall, which we will, in accordance with your request, dedicate to those noble principles which should ever impel us to the cheerful performance of our duties; and to consecrate it to those cardinal virtues which adorn and elevate humanity. The Officers of ———— Chapter will surrender their places to the Officers of the Grand Chapter.

The Officers of the Grand Chapter will take the places vacated according to their corresponding titles, and the Officers of the Chapter will occupy the chairs at their left. The Chapter is seated.

A suitable ode may be sung. At the conclusion of the singing the G. Matron will make the following or other appropriate remarks:

G. Matron. Sisters and Brothers, within these walls, and beneath this roof, you are to assemble from time to time, to assist and encourage one another in the great work you are called upon to perform in the cause of charity and benevolence. Around this Altar you are to cultivate and nourish those sweet and fragrant flowers which Love, unfeigned, shall scatter on the rugged pathway of human life. Let charity, which is unselfish love, which is kind and which thinketh no evil, ever be found within your hearts. Before we dedicate this Temple to the purposes of the Order of the Eastern Star, let us invoke the blessing of our Father in Heaven. Brother Grand Chaplain, lead us in our devotions.

The Chapter is called up. The G. Chaplain, at the Altar, delivers the following or other appropriate prayer:

PRAYER.

Heavenly Father, graciously receive the profound homage we pay to Thee as we dedicate this hall to the work of our Order, and consecrate it to Thy Holy Name. We pray Thee to take under Thy special protection all those who shall be lawfully appointed to rule therein, that they may comply with all the obligations by them contracted with Thee, and with all to whom they are bound by the bonds of fraternity. Exclude from this temple all evil

passions, all prejudices, all intolerance. May we meet each other here as the children of one Father, whose beneficent hand reaches out to all and who would lead them by the same path to the gates of eternal joy. Forgive our transgressions and omissions, committed through ignorance and frailty. Teach us the ways of righteousness, that our thoughts and deeds may conduce to the good of our fellow men and to Thy glory. Amen.

All respond, Amen.

Chaplain returns to station.

An appropriate ode may be sung. The Chapter is seated.* The G. Matron, standing, will say:

G. Matron. "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem! Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee."

A. G. Matron. "For the Lord hath chosen Zion; he hath desired it for his habitation. Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord, ye that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of God. The Lord that made heaven and earth, bless thee out of Zion."

***The Officers will remain standing during this part of the ceremony.**

G. Cond. "I rejoice at the things that were said unto me. We shall go into the house of the Lord. Our feet are standing in thy courts, O Jerusalem. Because of the house of the Lord our God, we have sought good things for thee. Let peace be in thy strength, and abundance in thy towers; for the sake of my companions, I speak peace for thee."

A. G. Cond. "Unless the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it. Unless the Lord keep the city, he watcheth in vain that keepeth it. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house. For he showeth us good things, and the light of his countenance is shed upon us."

A. G. Patron. "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift

up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of Glory."

G. Patron. The special duty to which this evening is assigned, and for which we are assembled, is the Dedication of this beautiful hall to the service of the Order of the Eastern Star. The purposes of our Order are established upon our respect for filial devotion; our loyalty and industry; our fidelity and courage; our abiding faith; and on our beneficence and steadfastness. The services of Dedication will now begin.

An appropriate ode or verse may be sung.

The A. G. Cond., standing in her place in the North, pours oil and strews white flowers upon the floor, and says:

A. G. Cond. In the name of our Father, who is in heaven, I consecrate this hall to PEACE.

At this moment she displays a small banner, on which is painted the word PEACE; which is suspended near the position of the A. G. Cond., who continues:

May Peace and Joy forever reign within these walls. May the flowers of peace and the oil of joy give gladness to the hearts of all who assemble here. Glory be unto God in the highest, and on earth peace and good will to men.

G. Chaplain. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity; for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore."

An appropriate ode or verse may be sung.

The G. Cond., standing, will pour wine and strew yellow flowers upon the floor, and say:

G. Cond. In the name of the heroines of the Order, I consecrate this hall to CHARITY.

Displays a banner on which is inscribed the word CHARITY, which she will suspend, and continues:

May the members of the Order, wherever located, ever labor to assist the needy, comfort the suffering, and cheer the disconsolate with the wine of plenty and the flowers of contentment.

An appropriate ode or verse may be sung.

G. Chaplain. "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal; charity never faileth."

An appropriate ode or verse may be sung.

The A. G. Matron, standing, will scatter wheat and blue flowers on the floor, and say:

A. G. Matron. In the name of the Grand Chapter, I consecrate this hall to TRUTH.

Displays a banner on which is inscribed the word TRUTH, which she suspends, and continues:

May the seed here scattered, and the fragrant flowers here strewn, typify the work here done.

May they serve to enrich and beautify the pathway of life; may Truth, that ennobling virtue, which lies at the foundation of all other virtues, ever govern the members of this Chapter.

G. Chaplain. "He that walketh uprightly and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart, O Lord, shall abide in thy tabernacle, and shall dwell in thy holy hill."

An appropriate ode or verse may be sung.

The G. Matron, standing, will scatter salt on the floor, and say:

G. Matron. As salt was an emblem of hospitality, friendship and fidelity among the people of antiquity, I scatter this symbol over the floor of this hall as a pledge of unbounded hospitality to those who partake, and in the belief that the Chapter meeting here will be devoted to the ennobling principles of our Order. In the name of the whole Order, I consecrate this hall to WISDOM.

Displays a banner on which is inscribed the word WISDOM, which being suspended, she continues:

May the deliberations of the Chapter be governed by Wisdom. May the Chapter prosper, and all its labors be crowned with success; may the motives and the actions of its members be as pure as new fallen snow, and may peace reign in the hearts of all who enter

this hall. Brighter than the bow of the Covenant, bent in the East after refreshing showers, be our covenant with each other, now and forever.

G. Chaplain. "Wisdom hath builded her house; she hath hewn out her seven pillars. She hath sent forth her maidens; she crieth upon the highest places of the city, at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the coming in at the doors. The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. When he prepared the heavens, I was there; when he set a compass upon the face of the depth. Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors."

An appropriate ode or verse may be sung.

The Chapter is called up, when the Grand Officers leave their places, bringing with them the vessels and articles of consecration. The G. Matron stands East of the Altar holding a banner on which is inscribed the word LOVE. The G. Patron is at the left and the G. Chaplain at her right. The A. G. Matron stands west of the Altar holding a banner, VIRTUE. The G. Cond. stands South of the Altar with the banner, HOPE. The A. G. Cond., in the North with the banner, FAITH. The other Grand Officers are arranged on the North and South sides of the Altar.

G. Matron. In the name of Faith, and of Hope, life-giving attributes; in the name of Virtue and of Wisdom, God-given attributes,

and in the name of Love, which is the soul of all true religion, I dedicate this hall to the services of the Order of the Eastern Star.

When the words *Faith* and *Hope* are uttered, the G. Cond. and A. G. Cond. will lay their banners upon the Altar; when the words *Virtue* and *Love* are spoken, the G. Matron and A. G. Matron will lay their banners upon the Altar. When the word *dedicate* is uttered, the four Officers will, simultaneously, pour the elements of consecration upon the floor. The G. Matron will continue:

May the Beneficence of the Order here fall like gentle rain upon parched places, comforting and consoling the hearts of the afflicted, as the dews of heaven nourish and gladden the green leaves, giving new life and sweeter fragrance to thirsting flowers.

The A. G. Matron, the G. Cond. and the A. G. Cond. will strew flowers on and around the Altar. The G. Matron will continue:

May we so live, and perform the duties that God requires of us, that when we lie down to our last sleep in the narrow grave, angels may watch over us and crown our souls with sweet flowers, freshly gathered from the lawns of Paradise.

As soon as the last word is spoken, a selection of triumphant music should be given.

The Grand Officers will return to and stand at their respective places, except the G. Chaplain, who at the Altar, delivers the following or other appropriate prayer, the Chapter having been called up.

PRAYER.

G. Chaplain. Our Father who art in heaven, we beseech thee to bless the work in which we have been engaged. Let the lessons we have received sink deep into our hearts, so that this shall have been to us no idle ceremony, but a means of edification in righteousness, love, and truth. May we all leave this place with our good resolutions strengthened, our charities enlarged, and our hearts expanded in an all-embracing love. Bless, O Heavenly Father, this Order of which we are devoted members. Aid us in the works of benevolence to which we are pledged, and give success to our efforts. Bless this edifice in the promotion of the good purposes to which it has been set apart. Let Thy protecting care be over all those who here shall meet together. Make them faithful to their duties, and zealous in every good word and work. And unto Thee, our God and Father, we will ascribe glory, dominion and power, world without end. Amen.

The G. Chaplain returns to his station. The Chapter is seated.

G. Matron. The Grand Marshal will proclaim in the West and in the East that this hall is regularly and constitutionally dedicated to the services of the Order, and to the cultivation and exemplification of all the virtues; and that such ceremonies are completed.

In the West the G. Marshal will not call up the Chapter, but, after the proclamation there, will gavel*. In the East the G. Marshal will call up the Chapter, make the proclamation and then seat the Chapter.

PROCLAMATION.

G. Marshal. By order of the Grand Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, I proclaim that this hall is regularly and constitutionally dedicated to the services of the Order, and to the cultivation and the exemplification of all the virtues; and that such ceremonies are now completed.

G. Patron. Sisters and Brothers, I feel convinced, from the interest you have manifested in our proceedings, that the good effect of the ceremonies of this occasion has not been lost upon your hearts. In setting apart this hall for the noble purposes just proclaimed, we have renewed our vows to practice the sublime lessons of our Order. May this building be more permanent than Roman palaces and Grecian temples, and as long as its foundations stand, may it be devoted to the benefit of humanity. Within its walls let benevolence be continually inculcated and practiced. Here may the wise and gentle teachings of our Organization bear rich fruit, and may radiations of Love illumine the lives of those who surround this Altar. May they have the strength and the courage

to face the storms and the vicissitudes of life; helping, may they be helped; blessing, may they be blessed; inspiring, may they be inspired.

DECLARATION.

G. Matron. Sisters and Brothers of ——— Chapter, we now finally deliver into your hands this beautiful hall. Joy be within its courts, and Peace, a constant guest! May these walls never echo with the sound of an angry or an unkind word. May all the influences that flow hence be good, and for good, now and forever.

Gavel.*

The Grand Officers may then, by order of the G. Matron, relinquish their stations to the Officers of the Chapter. Music and addresses may follow, as shall have been arranged. Closing in due form.